



**Summer activities abound**  
From Farmers' Markets to community festivals and park programs, find out what's happening in this issue of the *SCENE*



**County Fair set for July 26-30**  
Plan your exhibits, including trail camera photos  
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**summer SPOTLIGHT**

**Library Summer Reading program begins June 10**  
Entertainment, prizes entice youth to read  
**Pages 6, 7, 13**

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## Student's passion helps reduce waste at New Prague schools

During the winter of 2015, Zane Vogel, a sixth grader at New Prague Middle School, decided he wanted to make a difference. Vogel had recently spent time at Eagle Bluff Conservation Center with his class and realized that the principles instilled at the environmental learning center could inspire improvements in his school cafeteria. He noticed the amount of food being wasted in the cafeteria and decided that drastic improvement was needed.

Vogel brought his concerns and ideas to New Prague Middle School Assistant Principal Rick Bell, who started looking for ways to bring the student's ideas to life.

At the same time, Steve Steuber with Scott County Environmental Services reached out to the administrators at New Prague Area Schools (NPAS). He encouraged them to increase their green initiatives and offered to provide support and resources to help them do so. Between the encouragement and enthusiasm of a sixth grader and the resources and support provided by Scott County, New Prague Area Schools (NPAS) was able to completely overhaul its waste program for school cafeterias.

Scott County awarded NPAS a grant totaling almost \$30,000 to spend on custom waste-sorting stations for the cafeteria in each of the five school buildings, transportation costs, and additional implementation supplies. Students use the color-coded waste-sorting stations to separate the contents of their trays after each meal. Recyclable materials -- including milk cartons, plastic cups, bottles, and other materials -- are placed in a designated blue waste barrel to be recycled. Students place all compostable materials -- including all food waste, napkins, and other supplies -- into a green waste barrel for composting. Any materials that can't be composted or recycled are placed into a red waste barrel to be sent to the landfill. The barrels sit under a stainless steel countertop so students can quickly sort their materials as they leave the cafeteria.



**New Prague Middle School student Zane Vogel's enthusiasm for recycling resulted in a partnership between the school district and Scott County to reduce cafeteria waste.**

Implementing the program was relatively simple. Vogel and his classmates created a training video that was used to train the students how to correctly sort their waste. For the first few days, extra staff were available around the waste barrels to guide the students and make corrections if needed. Cafeteria staff at each building continues to help monitor the area and provide friendly reminders to the students where specific items should be placed.

As a result of this program, in 2016 NPAS sent 18.47 tons of compostable material to the Organics Recycling

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## Do you have a great business idea? Plans for FAST-TRACK Challenge underway

Technology Village, located in Prior Lake City Hall, is working in collaboration with the Scott County First Stop Shop to sponsor a county-wide business challenge. The *FAST-TRACK* Challenge is open to all entrepreneurs who have a business idea that is not yet well established, as well as businesses that have incorporated within the past 12 months. Goals of the *FAST-TRACK* Challenge are to assist residents in putting their business ideas on the *fast-track* to success, create jobs, and enhance economic development in Scott County.

Focus areas for the competition include, but are not limited to, health and personal care solutions, professional and business services with a technology component, educational products, and apps/software publishing. A category for 501(c)3 organizations is also included for new products or services that meet the evaluation criteria.

Over the next two months, coordinators of the *FAST-TRACK* Challenge will be working with local communities and sponsors to finalize the awards of the event, including cash prizes (seed money), a professional service package (assistance with legal, accounting, web/marketing), access to additional businesses and financial planning resources,

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**SmartLink**  
YOUR LEADER IN MOBILITY MANAGEMENT

**EXPANDED BUS SERVICE ALERT**

Scott County is proud to announce expanded Dial-A-Ride bus service hours:

**Weekends (Saturday & Sunday), 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**  
**Weekday evenings until 9 p.m.**

**Reservations number: 952-496-8341 Ext. 1**  
**Reservation hours: 7a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (M-F)**  
**Reservations accepted up to 7 days in advance**

**\*FREE FARES on WEEKENDS for Month of JUNE ONLY \***

**Fares based on distance each way:**  
**0-10 miles \$2.25; 10-20 miles \$4.50; over 20 miles \$6.75**  
**Service must be in Scott County ONLY**

**In need of transportation? Dial-A-Ride service is now available in Scott County on weekends and evenings.**



# Top of the SCENE

By Gary Shelton  
Scott County Administrator



## SCALE increases collaboration, saves money for County, cities

On April 24, County staff and approximately 40 members of our various communities participated in a review and planning session related to the update of the County's Comprehensive Plan. During this working session, participants were asked what the County's most successful accomplishments had been during the past 10 years; from those, what they believed the County should focus on as we move forward. While many answers were put forward, the majority centered on the ability of local governments within the County to work together through the Scott County Association for Leadership and Efficiency – a.k.a., SCALE. Some cited SCALE directly, some referenced collaboration generally, and others spoke about various SCALE initiatives (e.g., economic development through collaborative and unified transportation improvements, the First Stop Shop, et cetera). But across the entire working group, there was an acknowledgement that SCALE has been a defining factor in our ability to manage and continue moving forward during the economic downturn. Yet exactly what is SCALE, and why is it that many -- perhaps most -- people in the County have never even heard about it?

Scott County has a long and rich history of intergovernmental cooperation, but it was generally limited to "one-offs" between two entities. In 2003, an initiative was launched to try to bring local governmental entities together in a group to make a more concerted effort to "do business differently." This coalition of local units of government in Scott County was formed to encourage greater efficiencies and leadership in public service through enhanced communication, collaboration of services, and sharing of resources. The coalition became an association, and the group branded itself the Scott County Association for Leadership and Efficiency (SCALE). Initially comprised of the County and cities, the association quickly grew to include townships, school districts, the Shakopee Mdewakanton Community, and affiliated agencies; today, virtually all levels of government serving Scott County are active members in this voluntary partnership. As an association, the group has no governing or regulatory power – that is, it is *not* another level of government -- so each entity is free to participate as they may see fit. And while some members contribute to various projects, there is no obligation or fee for the members – in fact, most of the members have never contributed any funds. Nevertheless, this association has proven to be an enormous asset to its members and the residents of Scott County.

Since its creation, SCALE has saved taxpayers across the County hundreds of thousands of dollars while simultaneously improving services and enhancing the vitality of our communities. This is being accomplished by simply living up to the association's mantra: "Working Together to Strengthen Each Other." Forged out of the fundamental premise that citizens generally do not care which local government is providing a service (as long it is delivered in what they believe to be the most efficient and effective manner), the association has developed, enhanced, and/or perpetuated significant partnerships. From the sharing of equipment and technology to cooperative purchasing, from shared services to multilateral legislative action, SCALE partnerships have reached across every governmental jurisdiction: city to city, County to cities, County to state, public and private, public and non-profit, tribal government to cities... and the list is growing. And the enhancement to services, coupled with cost savings, through almost every dimension of governmental services is impressive.

Through SCALE's fiber optic project, Scott County, its cities, and schools have become one of the "most connected" areas in the country while reducing public costs by well over one million dollars annually. Our cooperative approach to land use and transportation planning and funding has reduced costs and improved infrastructure, and has enabled businesses to grow and prosper. And through our joint prosecution agreements, public safety information system, consolidated dispatch (911) center, and regional training center, we have dramatically enhanced public safety at a fraction of what it would cost for every entity to provide these services themselves.

Much of the collaboration in the government sector (and other organizations) is focused on efforts *within* each organization. Each organization works to streamline their processes, create self-sufficient teams, incorporate Six Sigma-type methods, empower workers, and implement other changes that would benefit their communities. And indeed, the local governments within Scott County stress these tactics as well. However, through SCALE, we have brought about significant change *among* organizations. By working across boundaries, we are creating a better, more efficient, more effective, and less costly government for all the citizens of Scott County.

## Commissioners' Corner

County Board Meetings through August 2017		
June 13	–	no meeting
June 20	–	County Board meeting
June 27	–	no meeting
July 4	–	no meeting
July 11	–	County Board meeting
July 18	–	County Board meeting
July 25	–	no meeting
August 1	–	County Board meeting
August 8	–	no meeting
August 15	–	County Board meeting
August 22	–	no meeting
August 29	–	County Board workshop

The Scott County Board meets at 9 a.m. on Tuesdays (except if indicated above) at the Government Center in Shakopee. Visit the Scott County website at [www.scottcountymn.gov](http://www.scottcountymn.gov) to view streaming video of Board meetings, Board agendas, and minutes of previous meetings. The Board proceedings may also be rebroadcast on your local government access cable channels; refer to your weekly newspapers for broadcast dates and times. For further information about County Board meetings, contact the County Administration office at (952) 496-8100.

**Citizen Committee Vacancies**

The Scott County Board of Commissioners is looking for interested citizens to serve on the following advisory committees. Members of advisory committees are provided with a per diem and mileage reimbursement for attendance at meetings. If you have any questions or are interested in serving on one of these committees, contact Deb Brazil at [dbrazil@co.scott.mn.us](mailto:dbrazil@co.scott.mn.us) or at (952) 496-8601. For more information regarding a specific committee, visit the Scott County website at [www.scottcountymn.gov](http://www.scottcountymn.gov); click on "Government," then "Citizen Advisory Boards, Commissions, & Committees."

**Community Corrections Advisory Board (1 vacancy).** There is currently one vacancy on this Board in Commissioner District 4. This Board is responsible for making recommendations to the Scott County Board of Commissioners as they relate to community corrections. The Board is comprised of law enforcement staff, corrections staff, judges, attorneys, social services personnel, educators, and citizens. There are five citizen members, one from each Commissioner District. Advisory Board members are appointed to serve two-year terms, and are eligible to serve three terms. Persons of color and from various ethnic groups are particularly encouraged to apply. This Board meets every other month on the fourth Thursday at 7:30 a.m.

**Extension Committee (1 youth at-large).** Currently, there is one youth at-large vacancy on this Committee. In partnership with the University of Minnesota, the Extension Committee assists in formulating programs, establishing budgets, and selecting and evaluating professional staff to improve the quality of life and to enhance the economy and environment through education, applied research, and the resources of the University of Minnesota. The Committee meets four times per year (Wednesday evenings, 5:15 p.m.).

**Human Services Resource Council (2 vacancies).** The Resource Council consists of three representatives from each Commissioner District. Currently, there are two vacancies on the Council in Commissioner District 3. Members serve two-year terms, and are eligible to serve three terms. The Resource Council participates in development of the Strategic Plan for Health and Human Services; makes recommendations concerning the annual budget of Health and Human Services; makes recommendations related to human services programs, needs, priorities, goals, and objectives to the County Board; and receives, reviews, and comments on special interest group and community at-large input regarding Human Services plans, programs, services, and performance. Professional providers and consumers of Human Services programs are particularly encouraged to apply. The committee meets quarterly, on the third Monday at 6 p.m.

**Personnel Board of Appeals (1 vacancy).** There is one at-large position vacancy on this Board. The Personnel Board of Appeals is responsible for making findings and reporting to the County Board upon the filing of an appeal by an applicant, employee, or appointing authority under certain circumstances. There are three at-large citizen representatives on this Board. Members are appointed for three-year terms and there are no term limits. This Board meets as needed.

- Commissioner Districts:**
- **District 1:** The Cities of Belle Plaine, Jordan (precincts 1 and 2), New Prague (precinct 2), and Shakopee (precinct 5); and Belle Plaine, Blakeley, Helena, Jackson, Louisville, St. Lawrence, and Sand Creek Townships.
  - **District 2:** The Cities of Elko New Market and Prior Lake (precincts 2 and 3); and Cedar Lake, Credit River, New Market, and Spring Lake Townships.
  - **District 3:** The City of Shakopee, precincts 1-4, 6-8, 12A, and 12B.
  - **District 4:** The Cities of Prior Lake (precincts 1, 4, 5, 6A, 6B, and 7) and Shakopee (precincts 9, 10, 11 and 13).
  - **District 5:** The City of Savage.

### Save the date for golf fundraiser!

The 11th annual *Tee It Up For The Task Force* golf fundraiser will be held on Sept. 8 at Stonebrooke Golf Club. Registration begins at 7 a.m., and the shotgun start will begin at 8 a.m. There will be a barbecue luncheon, raffle, and a live auction.

**Sponsorships are available as follows:**  
Platinum: \$1,250 (includes four golf registrations)  
Gold: \$1,000 (includes three golf registrations)  
Silver: \$750 (includes two golf registrations)  
Hole: \$300

Individual golf registrations are \$125. Please contact Kathy Welter at [kwelter@co.scott.mn.us](mailto:kwelter@co.scott.mn.us) or (952) 239-6885 to register or to sponsor. We hope to see you there!



## Editorial Policy

The purpose of this publication is to provide the public with information about Scott County Government and the opportunities it offers its citizens. If you have questions or suggestions, contact Lisa Kohner, Public Affairs Coordinator, at (952) 496-8780 or [lkohner@co.scott.mn.us](mailto:lkohner@co.scott.mn.us) or Claire Robling, Communications and Legislative Coordinator, at (952) 496-8597 or [crobbling@co.scott.mn.us](mailto:crobbling@co.scott.mn.us).



# Scott County Fair offers five days of fun, July 26-30

Going to the Fair? Buy a season pass, and come back again and again – there’s so much to do! Bring your friends, neighbors, and co-workers along -- you’ll be impressed with all the improvements.

**Food/Food Court:** Try the latest fair foods... Philly and ribeye sandwiches, deep fried tacos, and much more!

**Courtyard stage:** Halls of Magic, “Frozen”, Yo Yo Dave, and more!

**Miracle of Birth:** Back this year so you can experience the miracle of live births!

**Vendors:** Check out what the food and indoor and outdoor vendors have to offer!

**Rides:** Gold Star Amusements, mechanical bull, rock climbing wall and bungee jump, vintage carousel, and Ferris Wheel!

**Music:** Band of Brothers and Singing Cowgirl Friday), Fradenburghs (Sunday) -- see below for main stage bands.

**Beer Garden:** Join a bean bag tournament, try games, and sip craft beer and wine.

**Family entertainment:** Lumberjack shows and camps, fire shows, one-man circus, Old West Society, and pinewood car races!

**Exhibits:** Animal barns, creative arts, 4-H building exhibits, and more!

### Kid’s Day – Thursday

*Kids get in free until noon*  
“Frozen” appearances from Elsa and Anna, Touch-a-Truck, Halls of Magic shows, Lumberjack Kids’ Camp, free pottery making, prize drawings, free harmonicas and lessons, Yo Yo Dave.

### Senior and Veterans’ Day -- Friday

*Seniors and Veterans get in free until 4 p.m.*  
Music and events from 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. in Entertainment Square, Singing Cowgirl, demos, polka party

### Horse Shows

Draft Horse Shows: Friday, 4 p.m., Saturday, 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Sunday, 1 p.m.  
Ranch Rodeo: Friday, 4 p.m.  
Open Class Shows: Saturday and Sunday, 8 a.m.

### Main Stage Bands

Wednesday: No Stone Unturned, 7 – 11 p.m.  
Thursday: Ramblin’ River, 4 – 8 p.m.;



The Draft Horse Show attracts teams from around North America.

Scarlet Sky, 8 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.  
Friday: Stampede, 4 - 8:30 p.m.; Lost Highway, 8:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.  
Saturday: Everett Smithson, 12 noon – 4 p.m.; Castaways, 4 – 8 p.m.; Smoke Screen, 8 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.  
Sunday: Shaw Brothers, 1 – 5 p.m.

### Grandstand

Wednesday: NTPA Truck and Tractor Pull  
Thursday: Truck and Tractor Pull



Carnival rides and games add to the fun in the Midway.

Friday: MONSTER TRUCK Nationals  
Saturday: Demo Derby  
Sunday: Motokazie, 10 a.m.

Summer goes by so fast, and you don’t want to miss the Five Best Days of Summer at the Scott County Fair. Check out the complete schedule at [www.scottcountyfair.org/schedule/](http://www.scottcountyfair.org/schedule/).



The Miracle of Birth exhibit allows fairgoers to watch as piglets, lambs, cows, goats, and chicks are born.

## Get your exhibits ready for Fair, register by July 15

Do you think that vacation picture is good enough for a postcard? Does that sunset over the lake melt your heart each time you see it? Have your gardening skills exceeded your average neighbor? Do you want more than your brother-in-law to know you are a great brewmaster? Seems like you’re ready to test your talents out at the Scott County Fair!

County fairs were invented to help improve skills and develop plant varieties to help feed the population. All of the different departments represent the skills, crafts, and pastimes needed to lead a rich life. Most date to pioneer days, and each have been rediscovered in its own way and time in this century. You bring your best and compare it to standards of perfection and the other entries; a blue ribbon can be your badge of accomplishment.

To enter your handiwork into competition at the Scott County Fair, go to [scottcountyfair.org](http://scottcountyfair.org) and click “entry/show forms.” Select “2017 Premium list A.” In the premium list, you can find the department, class, and lot you want to enter. There are also youth categories, and divisions for artists with special needs.

The deadline for entries is July 15. Art and crafts can be dropped off between July 21 and 23; foods and flowers and vegetables should be dropped off July 26. Every department is judged by experts in the field, usually certified by the University or with proven professional experience. Then sit back and enjoy the Fair (starting July 26) and see which ribbon you won and collect your check (each ribbon has a cash award attached to it). See you at the Fair!

## Fair offers free Kids’ Day

The Scott County Fair Board, in cooperation with Scott County 4-H, will host a variety of special activities as part of Kids’ Day at the Fair on Thursday, July 27. Families and daycares will receive *free* admission and parking from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.

An array of special activities are on the schedule to entertain participants, including visits by “Frozen” princesses Elsa and Anna, barn tours, and the opportunity to get a close up look at emergency medical services and rigs. The Miracle of Birth will be open, where you may be able to witness the birth of a calf or see chicks hatch! There will also be a magic show, kids’ lumberjack camp, and a draft horse presentation, and these are just a few of the many activities going on throughout the day. In addition, all youth (age 12 and under) who have registered for Kids’ Day at the Fair will receive a ticket for a free kid’s size malt from the 4-H Foodstand, along with a goodie bag.

Check-in starts at 9 a.m. on the day



Visitors will get a close-up view of emergency medical services and rigs during Kids’ Day.

of the event. This is a do-it-yourself focused event which will allow families to participate at their own pace and at the events of their choosing. A schedule of events for the day is posted on the Scott County Fair website at <http://www.scottcountyfair.org/schedule/thursday-july-27-2017/>. Pre-registration for this event is preferred. For more information or to register, contact Mary at (952) 492-5379 or [schoe049@umn.edu](mailto:schoe049@umn.edu).



“Frozen” princesses Elsa and Anna will lead activities at the Fair on Kids’ Day, July 27.

## Trail camera photo exhibits sought for Fair, classes to be offered

There is a new hobby growing in the wild places around the state. People who would never call themselves photographers are investing time, talent, and treasure on trail camera photography. First marketed as tools to scout new hunting grounds, trail cameras are motion-activated, weather-resistant digital cameras. Most practitioners own more than one and spend many hours placing cameras, maintaining the sites, and recovering the photographs.

At this year’s Scott County Fair (July 26 - 30) there will be classes in the photography department exclusive to trail camera photography. Print your best captures and mount them for exhibit in one or more of the subject classes. The entries will be judged as part of the photography exhibit and will be shown with the rest of the photographs.

To enter, go to [scottcountyfair.org](http://scottcountyfair.org).



### Print your best trail camera photos and enter them for exhibit at the Fair.

Find the premium list, and go to the photography department. Find the description that best matches your print. Fill out an entry form (separate page) and e-mail or mail it to the County Fair Office. The premium list has instructions on preparing exhibits and the dates to deliver and pick up your exhibit.





# Environmental SCENE

By Paul Nelson

Environmental Services Manager



## The many ways to compost

We keep a ceramic pot next to the kitchen sink for collecting our vegetable scraps. When it needs to be emptied, I take it out and dump it in my composter. My wife dumps it at the edge of the woods for the deer. I've encouraged her to add it to the composter instead, but I have to say her approach is a form of reuse as well, and it's not ending up in the landfill.

Recently, however, I've been thinking about how to improve recycling of organic matter at home, and reduction of waste in general. I feel some obligation to try the same things that I ask the people of Scott County to consider. With our current method of handling organics at home, we do not compost some types of organic matter such as bones, or animal or vegetable oils. We don't want this in our compost or in the woods where it can attract rodents or raccoons. We also don't compost paper plates, cutlery, or cups. Admittedly, we don't use a lot and we recycle what we can, but I like the idea of using something less consumptive, that can also be composted.

So I did some research and found that if I bought BPI or Cedar Grove certified plates, cutlery, or cups, these would be accepted by commercial composting facilities as well as the Scott Mdewakanton Sioux Community Organics Recycling Facility (ORF) for composting. They also take other organic materials. I couldn't find certified recyclable products at the local grocery store, but I did find them available online.

This left me with how to get our organics to the composting facilities. I had heard that our waste hauler was offering the "blue bag" program. This program consists of putting your organic materials into a compostable blue bag supplied by the hauler that you then put in with your trash. They pick it up and -- when it arrives at the waste facility -- the blue bags are pulled out and transported to composting facilities. So I pulled up my hauler's website and, sure enough, they were advertising the blue bag program at only \$60 a year. As I spend several times that on coffee per year, I called them up -- only to learn that the blue bag service was available in a neighboring community, but not yet in my township. I now plan to call my township and ask that they enable the program under their hauler licensing protocol. However, I do know that some communities in Scott County have this program and more will offer it if there is demand.

At the end of the day, we are not quite where we want to be with organics recycling at our home. But we'll keep working on it. In the interim, however, we have also started to work on food waste. I know that my family buys food that we don't use before it goes bad, and we end up having to throw it away -- no, I mean *compost* it. Cumulatively, this is a very large problem and source of waste contributing to landfills. Save The Food (<https://www.savethefood.com/>) estimates that a whopping 40 percent of the food in America is wasted. I'll keep you posted on how that goes for us.

## Master Gardeners plan "Evenings in the Garden"

The Carver-Scott Extension Master Gardeners are pleased to present *Evenings in the Garden 2017* at the Scott County Fairgrounds in Jordan at the Teaching Garden. The garden was established to provide small theme gardens that interested citizens can adapt to their own backyard. You and your family are invited to explore and play in the garden when attending our *Evenings in the Garden* classes. Learn more and see our other events at [carverscottmastergardeners.org](http://carverscottmastergardeners.org)

*Evenings in the Garden* takes place every second and fourth Tuesday during the summer months, beginning with the Summer Garden Festival. There will be activities available for children at each event! **All classes are from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.**

**Summer Garden Festival** will take place on Tuesday, June 13, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. *rain or shine!*

Presentations include:

- **Mushroom Foraging:** You will learn about methods of identification, when to look for mushrooms, and the types of environments where they are found.
- **Food Preservation:** Learn methods of preserving your garden produce to enjoy year-round!
- **Native Pollinators:** The focus will be on the native pollinators, how they are an invaluable part of our food production, and what we can do to keep them healthy.

*Tours will be given of the 2017 gardens.*

**July 25, Fairy Gardens/Gnome Gardens:** Enjoy this miniature gardening style with a child or on your own. We will talk about putting together a Fairy/Gnome Garden from the container on up. Demonstration will include little touches to make this your own little "magic" place. Plan to have some fun with this!

**June 27, Vegetable Gardening:** Follow up learning about food preservation at the summer festival with a class on how to grow your own vegetables! You will learn about different varieties of classic favorites that thrive in the Minnesota garden.

**July 11, Garden Art:** Create unique pieces of art for your garden! Garden art can give a new look to your special outdoor space. Supplies will be provided at no cost.

**August 8, What can I do with all this produce?** Enjoy some of the garden's produce and get some new ideas for ways to use it. Zoodles, different sauces, pesto, and who knows what else we can use from the teaching garden. Tasting is encouraged!

**August 22, Jump Forward to Spring Color:** Join us as we talk about bulbs to plant this fall for color next spring. We will discuss different options for bulbs, how to care for them, and how to plant them. We will look at color schemes and ways to make the first flowers of spring part of your landscape.

## Volunteers monitor for invasive zebra mussels

What filters the lake water? Hint: Their larvae are microscopic. They are not native to Minnesota. And when they first infest a lake, they are less than half an inch in size. Need another hint? Its hard shell is striped like a zebra.

Zebra mussels are an invasive mussel that cost the United States billions of dollars each year, harm native ecosystems, and decrease recreational value. They get their name from the stripes on their shell, and they range in size from 1/4 to 1 1/2 inches. Once introduced to a lake, they quickly reproduce and densely cover any surfaces in the lake: even other hard shelled animals like crustaceans and native mussels. These invasive mussels are easily spread from waterbody to waterbody because people cannot see their larvae on their wet boats or floating in bilge or bait water. Once in a water body, they are a nuisance to recreationalists and detrimental to the lake's ecosystem. They cut the paws and feet of swimmers, clog pipes, damage boats, and they compete with larval fish for food. Within five years of an infestation of zebra mussels in the Great Lakes system, well-established walleye populations were decimated.

Scott County has two lakes infested with zebra mussels: Lower and Upper Prior Lakes. Because eradicating an already established population is very difficult and costly, early detection in lakes is key to controlling their spread. This spring, Scott Watershed Management Organization (SWMO) initiated an *Adopt a Dock Zebra Mussel Monitoring* program to protect lakes in the watershed. Volunteers on Cedar, McMahon, O'Dowd, and Thole lakes attach monitoring plates to their docks and check them monthly for zebra mussels. If any are found, the volunteers will collect a sample and contact the SWMO. The SWMO will review and transport suspect samples to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). If the samples are verified as zebra mussels, the two agencies will then collaborate on a plan to stop the mussel's spread.

### Here's what you can do to stop zebra mussels

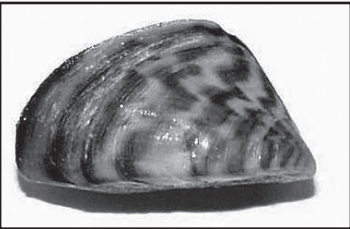
Controlling the spread of zebra mussels to other lakes in Scott County is possible, but we need the

help of every water recreationalist to do it. Here are some tips you can follow to help stop the spread of this nuisance mussel:

- **Remember to Clean, Drain, and Dry** your watercraft before you leave the lake's water access. Remove any visible mud, aquatic plants, animals, and debris from all equipment that entered the waterbody (e.g. the anchor and other boating, wading, and fishing equipment). Minnesota law requires you to drain the ballast tanks, portable bait containers, bilges, livewells, and baitwells. Lastly, keep drain plugs removed while transporting your watercraft.
- **Dispose of all unwanted bait and fish waste** in the garbage to ensure that zebra mussels (and/or their microscopic larvae) do not tag along to another lake.
- **Let your watercraft dry** for at least five days before moving it to another waterbody.
- If possible, the Department of Natural Resources recommends that upon leaving a waterbody you **spray your watercraft with high-pressure water**, and/or rinse with very hot water (120°F for at least two minutes or 140°F for at least 10 seconds).
- Two Lake Service Providers in Scott County offer high pressure cleaning of watercraft: One Choice Detailing in Lakeville (in Credit River Township) and Bricks Boatworks in Shakopee.

**If you find any zebra mussels** attached to a watercraft or associated equipment (dock, boat lift, swim raft, et cetera), to be in compliance with the law you need to complete the following before moving it to another waterbody:

1. Clean it thoroughly at the site of removal from the lake. (See tips above.)



**Zebra mussels and their larvae can be spread from lake to lake.**

2. Before you transport it on a public road, let it sit clean and out of the water up to five days.
3. Before you transport it on public roads, read and fill out the appropriate permits. You may need to fill out General Permit form 2015-003 for infested watercrafts, or General Permit form 2015-004 for infested equipment. **You must have these forms with you at all times while in transport.** These and other aquatic invasive species authorization forms can be found at DNR's website at [http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/ais\\_transport.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/ais_transport.html).
4. After transport to the destination, **the watercraft or equipment must not be placed in another water body until a minimum of 21 days have passed.** Zebra mussels can survive up to 14 days out of the water; so it's important to follow the DNR requirements.
  - Visit the DNR's Aquatic Invasive Species webpages to find out more about the invasive species in Minnesota and how you can help prevent their spread: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/preventspread.html>.
  - Visit SWMO's website for updates on volunteer opportunities and monitoring efforts: <http://www.scottcountymn.gov/wmo>.



**Zebra mussels multiply quickly and can cause extensive damage by clinging to docks and boats, and competing with fish larvae for food.**





Shakopee Farmers’ Market is open on Thursdays at the American Legion.

# Visit a local farmers’ market this summer

What heralds the season of summer more than fresh, locally-grown produce? Celebrate summer by visiting one or more of the great local farmers’ markets right here in our own community.

## Prior Lake Farmers’ Market (May 6 – October)

The 15th season of the Prior Lake Farmers’ Market began on May 6 and will continue each Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon until October. Live music is provided almost every weekend, and breakfast is cooked right on site. There are many more new and returning vendors this year, including Master Gardeners to help with gardening questions. The Prior Lake Farmers’ Market is located on Main Street (downtown Prior Lake, just off of Highway 13 and County Road 21). There is free parking at many of the local businesses. For more information, please visit their website at [www.priorlakefarmersmarket.com](http://www.priorlakefarmersmarket.com).

## New Prague Farmers’ Market (May 6 – October)

The New Prague Farmers’ Market (Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, Wednesdays from 3 to 6 p.m. [starting in mid-June]) is proud to provide fresh, locally grown, high quality produce. A variety of vegetables and fruits are available in season, and started plants – such as tomatoes, peppers, cabbages, et cetera – as well as fruit trees and perennials are available in the spring. Scrumptious baked goods, jellies and jams, honey, and other foods are available all season long. A limited number of craft such as beeswax candles, soaps, and bath salts are also featured. The New Prague Farmers’ Market is held in the parking lot of the East Town Commons. This is located on the corner Main Street and 7th Avenue SE (near Carbone’s) in New Prague. For more information, please contact Joe Bisek at [ajbisek@bevcomm.net](mailto:ajbisek@bevcomm.net) or at (952) 994-5632.

## Savage Farmers’ Market (June 4 – October 29)

Operated by the Saint Paul Farmers’ Markets. In addition to their flagship market in downtown Saint Paul, the Saint Paul Farmers’ Markets run 20 satellite markets throughout the metropolitan area – one right in the heart of Savage! Located at 4800 West 123rd, the Savage Farmers’ Market opens on June 4 and will be held on Sundays (from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.) through October 29. Market staff can be reached at (651) 227-8101 or via e-mail to [info@stpaulfarmersmarket.com](mailto:info@stpaulfarmersmarket.com).

## Belle Plaine Farmers’ Market (Wednesdays through October 11)

Located at Court Square Park (410

N. Cedar St., Belle Plaine), the Belle Plaine Farmers’ Market features hardy perennials, delicious produce, crafts and more! We have a variety of homemade/ homegrown products -- something for everyone. The market is held on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. For more information, or to reserve your spot for the season, contact Laurie Devine at (952) 454-1038 You can also find more information by checking out “Belle Plaine Farmers Market” on Facebook!

## Shakopee Farmers’ Market: American Legion

(Thursdays, June 28 through the end of October)  
Located just outside of the American Legion Hall at the intersection of Highway 101 and County Road 17 in Shakopee, the Shakopee Farmers’ Market features loads of produce, homemade honey, delicious baked goods, and handcrafted birdhouses. Held Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., rain or shine! (This market is also held in Chaska on Wednesdays, starting June 27, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. outside of the Carver County Government Center. Chaska’s Farmers’ Market also features egg rolls and lo mein!) For more information, contact Sheila Stanton at (612) 226-5348.

## Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community Farmers Market

(Thursdays, May 25 – October)  
The freshest vegetables, herbs, and fruit are grown at Wozupi, the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community organic farm, and they will be available at a reoccurring farmers market at Mazopiya from 2 to 6 p.m. on Thursdays, May through October. Wozupi’s maple syrup, honey, and eggs -- as well as cooking demonstrations -- will be featured throughout the season. Mazopiya is located at 2571 Credit Union Dr. in Prior Lake.

## Lydia Farmers’ Market

(Saturdays and Tuesdays, June 24 -- October 28)  
Located at Highway 13 and County Road 10 (in the parking lot of Zion United Methodist Church), the market is open on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 12 noon and Tuesdays from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. The market offers fresh vegetables, home canned goods, woodwork, fresh eggs, and baked goods. Vendors are welcome!

If you have information about other farmers’ markets in and around Scott County, please contact Lisa Kohner at (952) 496-8780 or via e-mail at [lkohner@co.scott.mn.us](mailto:lkohner@co.scott.mn.us) to be included in an upcoming issue of *the SCENE*!

# Healthy SCENE

By Lisa Brodsky  
Public Health Director



## Design of cities can aid mental health

People who reside in urban areas are more likely to develop depression, anxiety, and schizophrenia than those living in rural areas. Yet no matter where you live, at least one in four people will have a mental illness in their lifetime, and nearly everyone suffers from mental health problems -- such as low mood, loneliness, stress, and anxiety -- at some time or another. These kinds of problems can affect everything from relationships

and housing to social capital and resilience. But mental health is not just an individual issue; it affects the whole community. According to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), economic costs associated with mental illness amount to four percent of our national GDP. Mental illness can increase a community’s costs of health care, and puts people at higher risk of physical health problems. Indirectly, people with mental health

problems can become disadvantaged in education and employment, and their opportunities for economic and social interaction may begin to decline.

In these ways, mental health problems affect a community’s ability to remain thriving, resilient, and sustainable. But while many of the more physical aspects of health have been addressed using urban design — for example, some cities have created walking and biking infrastructure that encourages physical fitness to reduce obesity, while others have separated pedestrians from motor vehicle emissions to reduce urban air pollution and prevent respiratory diseases — many cities have not taken the same intentional approach with their citizens’ mental health. Many urban planners and public health professionals are now starting to realize that if physical health is not solely the responsibility of physicians, mental health need not solely be the responsibility of psychiatrists. In order to improve the mental health of urban dwellers, the public health, mental health, and urban planning sectors need to start working together to find shared solutions instead of operating in silos.

### The history of health-based urban planning

Modern urban planning was created in part to promote the health and well-being of city dwellers in the late 19th century. And we needed it. As people from rural areas flocked to cities during the industrial revolution in pursuit of economic opportunities, so did outbreaks of infectious diseases. Urban planning and health specialists combined forces to identify these factors and stop the spread of diseases like cholera and typhoid. They then took action by improving city sewage systems, garbage collection, and rodent control. As a result, outbreaks of diseases declined and these principles of infection control became intrinsic to urban planning.

### The current state of affairs for urban health

Since then, the disciplines of public health and urban planning have remained friendly, but they have developed and diverged on their own paths. However, they have recently joined forces once more to address a new type of population health threat: chronic diseases. Chronic diseases like heart disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes, and chronic lung disease are a major worldwide challenge. Medical professionals address these chronic diseases at the individual level, but urban factors are also involved in the development of these diseases. For example, a combination of car use, poor pedestrian and biking infrastructure, poor public transit links, sedentary office-based jobs, and a lack of access to parks and other exercise areas conspire to limit people’s physical activity, which is a risk factor for many chronic diseases. Mental health is the next big opportunity for the collaboration between urban planning and public health specialists, but it’s proving to be a slow journey. Many public health and planning professionals had not really considered how to address these challenges at the level of the population; mental health is often only given a cursory mention in healthy cities literature, and sometimes it’s nowhere to be found.

### The solution for mentally healthy cities

When people are experiencing mental health problems, individual and group interventions by mental health professionals are essential. But urban planners can design the environment in ways that systematically address mental health opportunities. For example:

- Expanding access to green spaces — such as parks, street trees, or even office-window views of nature — has been proven to benefit mental health.
- “Active design” is not simply a physical health effort. Because regular exercise can be an effective way to address some forms of mild depression (as well as reducing anxiety and some of the symptoms of dementia, ADHD, and even schizophrenia), interventions like creating walking circuits in a park or installing safe cycling infrastructure can have substantial mental health benefits.
- Positive social interaction increases self-esteem and feelings of belonging, and it mitigates loneliness and anxiety. In order to encourage this, public spaces can install features like benches and chess tables to facilitate social interaction and provide settings for community activities.

In Scott County, public health specialists and urban planners have come together to work on Comprehensive Plans that take health into consideration. Policy, system, and environmental changes are focusing on healthy eating and active living. Access to regional and local parks and trails offers opportunities for physical activity. Public transit is expanding to offer more connectivity. And worksite wellness is encouraging activity during the work day. Some of these activities are funded through the Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP).

But when it comes to promoting good mental health and preventing disorders, there are myriad untapped opportunities. When we shift the scale of innovation from the individual to the community, we can create long-lasting solutions that make our cities more enjoyable — and mentally healthy — for all.

(SOURCE: QUARTZ *Mental-health issues can’t be solved by psychologists alone—city design can help, too*. Written by Layla McCay, Director, Centre for Urban Design and Mental Health)



Walking, biking, and enjoying the outdoors can improve mental and physical health.



# Library Summer Reading Program begins June 10

Kids who engage in learning activities during the summer start their next school year ready to learn! Help prevent summer learning loss in your child with the *free* offerings at your local library. **Summer Spotlight**, the library's new summer reading program, offers a summer's worth of fun and enriching events and reading incentives for kids from babies to 18 years of age.

Summer Spotlight is too big and exciting for just one sheet of paper! Visit your local library or our website at [www.scottlib.org/srp](http://www.scottlib.org/srp) for:

- The full schedule of performers, parties, and book clubs.
- How to earn rewards for reading and learning activities with either our online or print tracking forms.
- How to win Family 4-packs of State Fair tickets and other great giveaways.
- Locations and open hours of all seven of our libraries.

We welcome your family to the library this summer!

**Summer Spotlight and Bookawocky** are supported by the Scott County Library and Metropolitan Library Services Agency (MELSA). Additional support provided by local Friends of the Library, Minnesota State Fair, Minnesota Twins, Star Tribune, KARE11, Crayola Experience MOA, and Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

**Scott County library locations and contact info:**  
**Belle Plaine:** 125 W Main, (952) 873-6767, [bplibrary@scottlib.org](mailto:bplibrary@scottlib.org)  
**Elko New Market:** 110 J Roberts Way, (952) 496-8030, [nmlibrary@scottlib.org](mailto:nmlibrary@scottlib.org)  
**Jordan:** 275 Creek Lane S, (952) 496-8050, [jolibrary@scottlib.org](mailto:jolibrary@scottlib.org)  
**New Prague:** 400 E Main St, (952) 758-2391, [nplibrary@scottlib.org](mailto:nplibrary@scottlib.org)  
**Prior Lake:** 16210 Eagle Creek Ave SE, (952) 447-3375, [pllibrary@scottlib.org](mailto:pllibrary@scottlib.org)  
**Savage:** 13090 Alabama Ave S, (952) 707-1770, [salibrary@scottlib.org](mailto:salibrary@scottlib.org)  
**Shakopee:** 235 Lewis St S, (952) 233-9590, [shlibrary@scottlib.org](mailto:shlibrary@scottlib.org)

We're also launching the **Great Summer Read Down** that gives kids and teens a chance to read down their library fees over the summer. Kids can earn \$2 off their library card fees for every 20 minutes they read in the library between May 25 and Aug. 31. Get started by bringing in the coupon below to your local Scott County library and we'll take off \$2 in fees from your child's card.



## Events by library location:

### Belle Plaine events for kids

#### Weekly events:

Thursdays, 2-3 p.m.: **Arty Smarty** (ages 6-11) begins June 22, and rotates with Crafty Science. Explore and create different art at this drop-in program!  
Thursdays, 2-3 p.m.: **Crafty Science** (ages 6-11) begins June 29, and rotates with Arty Smarty. Explore science concepts at this drop-in program with a different take-home project each time!  
Fridays, 10:30 a.m.: **potlight Storytime** (all ages). Join local notables for stories and fun for kids and families!



The “Snake, Rattle, and Roll” animal program will be featured at several libraries this summer.

#### More events for kids:

Thursday, June 15, 2-2:45 p.m.: Summer Kickoff (ages 3-11). Snake Discovery “Snake, Rattle, and Roll” **Animal Program** -- Slither into the world of reptiles by touching, holding, and even feeding some scaly critters at this fun program!  
Wednesday, June 21, 2-3 p.m.: **4-H Lego WeDo Robotics Drop-In Event** (ages 6-11). Join the 4-H Lego Team for a fun *free* hands-on demo of WeDo Lego Robotics.  
Fridays, June 23, July 14, August 4, 2-4 p.m.: **Green Screen Photo Booth** (ages 6-11)  
Tuesday, June 27, 10:30 a.m.: **Make a Cornhusk Kid** with the Scott County

Historical Society (ages 6-11). Make a special cornhusk kid to take home!  
Tuesday, June 27, 3-4 p.m.: **Captain Underpants Drop-In Party** (ages 6-11). Fun and games based on the popular books and new movie.  
Wednesday, June 28, 2-3 p.m.: **GamerBlast Drop-In Event** (ages 7-11). Blast your boredom with this *free* drop-in program featuring games, games, games!  
Thursday, July 6, 4-4:45 p.m.: **\*Mr. Lemoncello's Escape Room** (ages 8-11). Search for secret compartments, find hidden clues, and solve puzzles to plot your escape from Mr. Lemoncello's library.  
Tuesday, July 11, 3-4 p.m.: **\*Perler Aliens** (ages 7-11). Make an alien with Perler beads.  
Wednesday, July 12, 2-3:30 p.m.: **\*Robots + Aliens with Artistry** (ages 6-11). Create the coolest robots, freakiest aliens, and most awesome planets and spaceships you can imagine.  
Tuesday, July 18, 2-3 p.m.: **\*Pioneer Life Mini-Camp** (ages 9-12). Find out what it was like to grow up as a pioneer kid!  
Wednesday, July 19, 2-2:45 p.m.: **Professor Prchal Science and Engineering Extravaganza** (ages 6-11). Professor Anna is back with science and engineering tricks.  
Tuesday, July 25, 10:30-11:30 a.m.: **STEM Explorers Drop-In Event** (ages 3-8). Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math for the younger crowd!  
Wednesday, July 26, 10:30-11:30 a.m.: **\*Book Explorers** (ages 4-6 and an adult). A combination of book club and storytime!  
Wednesday, Aug. 2, 2-3:30 p.m.: **\*Rainbow Trolls Workshop** (ages 6--11). Create your own Rainbow Troll clay character with the help of local artist Maureen Carlson.  
Tuesday, Aug. 8, 10:30-11:30 a.m.: **Dr. Seuss Drop-In Party** (ages 3-8). *Seussian* activities presented by the Scott County Library Teen Advisory Board.

### Belle Plaine events for teens

*For ages 12 and up. Register to guarantee your spot.*  
Thursday, June 15, 4-5 p.m.: **Haunted Library Escape Room**. “Locked” in a room with only one way out! Search for secret compartments, find hidden clues, and solve puzzles to plot your escape in one hour.

Thursday, June 29, 4-5 p.m.: **Summer Sign Workshop**. Join local artist Kristin Kilgren of Block.Paper.Scissors. and express yourself by stenciling and painting your own summer-themed 12”x5.5” sign!  
Thursday, July 20, 4-6 p.m.: **Urban Art with Artistry**. Explore the various artists and styles of Urban Art. We practice painting various “urban-style” text, develop our own “tags,” and create one large scale painted work.  
Thursday, August 3, 4-5 p.m.: **Gamercon**. Battle other teens in our *free* single-player Super Smash Bros tournament held on our big screen, match wits with some board games, and more gaming fun!

### Elko New Market events for kids

#### Weekly events:

Tuesdays, 2-3 p.m.: **Crafty Science** (ages 6-11), begins June 13 and rotates with Arty Smarty. Explore science concepts at this drop-in program with a different take-home project each time!  
Tuesdays, 2-3 p.m.: **Arty Smarty** (ages 6-11), begins June 20 and otates with Crafty Science. Explore and create different art at this drop-in program!  
Fridays, 10:30 a.m.: **Spotlight Storytime** (all ages). Join local notables for stories and fun for kids and families!

#### More events for kids:

Wednesday, June 14, 2 p.m.: Summer Kickoff (all ages). **Alan Johnson, Comedy Juggler** -- Enjoy this f a s t - p a c e d comedy variety show featuring magic, comedy, a u d i e n c e participation, and tons of unique one-of-a-kind juggling!  
Monday, June 19, 2-3 p.m.: **G a m e r B l a s t Drop-In Event** (ages 7-11). Blast your boredom with this *free* drop-in program featuring games, games, games!  
Wednesday, June 21, 2-3 p.m.: **\*Pioneer Life Mini-Camp** (ages 9-12). Find out what it was like to grow up as a pioneer.  
Monday, June 26, 4-5:30 p.m.: **\*Creative Catapults with Artistry** (ages 6-11). Use creative problem-solving, artistic skills, engineering, and sculpture techniques to create functional catapults.  
Wednesday, June 28, 2-3 p.m.: **4-H Lego WeDo Robotics Drop-In Event** (ages 6-11). Join the 4-H Lego Team for a fun *free* hands-on demo of WeDo Lego Robotics.  
Wednesday, July 12, 2-3 p.m.—**STEM Explorers Drop-In Event** (ages 3-8). Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math for the younger crowd!  
Friday, July 14, 2-3 p.m.: **\*Decoupage Initials** (ages 7-11). Decorate the first letter of your name with whatever magazine photos or book art you like!  
Monday, July 17, 2-2:45 p.m.: **Professor Prchal Science and Engineering Extravaganza** (ages 6-11). Professor is back with science and engineering tricks.  
Monday, July 24, 2-3 p.m.: **Dr. Seuss Drop-In Party** (ages 3-8): *Seussian* activities presented by the Scott County Library Teen Advisory Board.  
Wednesday, July 26, 2-2:45 p.m.: **\*Mr. Lemoncello's Escape Room** (ages 8-11). Search for secret compartments, find hidden clues, and solve puzzles to plot your escape from Mr. Lemoncello's library.  
Monday, July 31, 4-5 p.m.: **\*Cartoon Characters with Abrakadoodle** (ages 6--11). Create a funny picture of your favorite Charles Schultz cartoon character (Snoopy, Woodstock, Lucy, or Linus).  
Wednesday, Aug. 2, 2 p.m.: **Make a Cornhusk Kid** with the Scott County



Comedy Juggler Alan Johnson will perform in Belle Plaine June 14.

For links to more details and registration, visit [www.scottlib.org/SRP](http://www.scottlib.org/SRP) -- events that require registration are marked with \* at the beginning. Events are 30 to 45 minutes long unless otherwise noted. Please arrive early, as space is limited.

Some events may not be able to accommodate large groups (such as daycares) if program supplies or space are limited. Please call the library in advance with questions about group size.

## - GREAT-summer Coupon (for ages 0-18) READDOWN

Congratulations, you've earned \$2.00 off library card fees! Just bring this back to your local Scott County Library. Youth through age 18 can read down more fees at their library starting this summer (20 minutes = \$2.00)!

Reader's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Reader's Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Library Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

There is no cash value to this coupon; amount cannot be applied to purchases or future charges.

Expires August 31, 2017.

STAFF ONLY Initials: \_\_\_\_\_  
Card unblocked now? ☐ YES ☐ NO  
Use "ReadDown" as payment type in Workflows; put coupon and receipt in cash drawer to send to Sarah G.

READING PROGRAM to next page



# Summer Spotlight includes entertainers, incentives

Historical Society (ages 6-11). Make a special cornhusk kid to take home!  
Monday, Aug. 7, 2-3 p.m.: **\*Robot Mouse Coding Mini-Camp** (ages 8-11). Learn the basics of coding, then team up to get your Robot Mouse through mazes!  
Tuesday, Aug. 8, 2:30-3:30 p.m.: **Bruce the Bug Guy** (ages 3-11). *Live* insects and arthropods in this hands-on event. *Funded by Elko New Market Friends of the Library.*

**Elko New Market events for teens**  
*For ages 12 and up. Register to guarantee your spot.*

Tuesday, June 13, 2–3 p.m.: **Win the Money Game!** Test your financial smarts in this fun program hosted by Shawna from U of M Extension!  
Friday, July 7, 2–3 p.m.: **Gamercon.** Battle other teens in our *free* single-player Super Smash Bros tournament held on our big screen, match wits with some board games, and more gaming fun!  
Wednesday, July 12, 4-6 p.m.: **YouCubes with Artistry.** Collage, sculpt, draw, and paint to turn Xerox images, drawings, and illustrations about you into a 3D “YouCube.”

Wednesday, July 19, 4-5 p.m.: **Haunted Library Escape Room.** “Locked” in a room with only one way out! Search for secret compartments, find hidden clues, and solve puzzles to plot your escape in one hour!  
Wednesday, Aug. 2, 4-5 p.m.: **Feed Me. Learn** (and sample!) three different recipes and even get a *free* journal/pen set to keep great recipes in!

**Jordan events for kids**

**Weekly events:**  
Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.: **Spotlight Storytime** (all ages). Join local notables for stories and fun for kids and families!  
Wednesdays, 3-4 p.m.: **Arty Smarty** (ages 6-11) begins June 21, and rotates with Crafty Science. Explore and create different art at this drop-in program!  
Wednesdays, 3-4 p.m.: **Crafty Science** (ages 6-11) begins June 14, and rotates with Arty Smarty. Explore science concepts at this drop-in program with a different take-home project each time!

**More events for kids:**

Monday, June 12, 2-2:30 p.m.: Summer Kickoff (all Ages). **Jason’s Juggling Show** -- Enjoy this fun, fast-paced comedy show packed with juggling, the Chinese diabalo, balancing, and a 6-foot unicycle!

Thursday, June 15, 10:30-11 a.m.: **Make a Cornhusk Kid** with the Scott County Historical

Society (ages 6-11). Make a special cornhusk kid to take home!  
Mondays, June 19, July 24, 4-6 p.m.: **Green Screen Photo Booth** (ages 6-11)

Thursday, June 22, 1-1:45 p.m.: **\*Mr. Lemoncello’s**

**Escape Room** (ages 8-11). Search for secret compartments, find hidden clues, and solve puzzles to plot your escape from Mr. Lemoncello’s library.  
Monday, June 26, 2-3 p.m.: **Captain Underpants Drop-In Party** (ages 6-11). Fun and games based on the popular books and new movie.  
Tuesday, June 27, 2-3 p.m.: **\*Pioneer Life Mini-Camp** (ages 9-12). Find out what it was like to grow up as a pioneer kid!  
Monday, July 10, 4-5:30 p.m.: **\*Rainbow Trolls Workshop** (ages 6-11). Create your own Rainbow Troll clay character with the help of local artist Maureen Carlson.  
Thursday, July 13, 2-3 p.m.: **\*Book Explorers** (ages 4-6 and an adult). A

combination of book club and storytime!  
Monday, July 17, 2-3 p.m.: **4-H Lego WeDo Robotics Drop-In Event** (ages 6-11). Join the 4-H Lego Team for a fun *free* hands-on demo of WeDo Lego Robotics.  
Thursday, July 20, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.: **\*“Show and Tell” Writing Workshop** (ages 9-11). Join author Jacqueline West in this interactive writing workshop.  
Wednesday, July 26, 5-6 p.m.: **\*Perler Aliens** (ages 7-11). Fuse your own alien with Perler beads.  
Thursday, July 27, 10:30-11:30 a.m.: **Dr. Seuss Drop-In Party** (ages 3-8). *Seussian* fun presented by the Scott County Library Teen Advisory Board.



**Local artist Maureen Carlson will lead a \*Rainbow Trolls Workshop July 10 from 4-5:30 p.m. at the Jordan Library.**

**GamerBlast drop-in events will be held periodically at the libraries.**

Monday, July 31, 4-5 p.m.: **GamerBlast Drop-In Event** (ages 7-11). Blast your boredom with this *free* drop-in program featuring games, games, games!  
Thursday, Aug. 3, 10:30-11:30 a.m.: **STEM Explorers Drop-In Event** (ages 3-8). Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math for the younger crowd!  
Monday, Aug. 7, 2-3:30 p.m.: **\*Creative Catapults with Artistry** (ages 6-11). Use creative problem-solving, artistic skills, engineering, and sculpture techniques to create functional catapults.  
Tuesday, Aug. 8, 2-2:45 p.m.: **Professor Prchal Science and Engineering Extravaganza** (ages 6-11). Professor Anna is back with science and engineering tricks.

**Jordan events for teens**

*For ages 12 and up. Register to guarantee your spot.*  
Monday, June 19, 2-4 p.m.: **YouCubes with Artistry.** Use collage, sculpture, and various drawing and painting techniques to turn Xerox images, drawings, and illustrations about yourself into a 3-D “YouCube”!  
Wednesday, June 28, 5-6 p.m.: **Haunted Library Escape Room.** “Locked” in a room with only one way out! Search for secret compartments, find hidden clues, and solve puzzles to plot your escape in one hour.  
Wednesday, July 12, 5-6 p.m.: **Gamercon.** Battle other teens in our *free* single-player Super Smash Bros tournament held on our big screen, match wits with some board games, and more gaming fun!  
Wednesday, July 19, 5-6 p.m.: **Summer Sign Workshop.** Join local artist Kristin Kilgren of Block.Paper.Scissors. and express yourself by stenciling and painting your own summer-themed 12”x5.5” sign!

**New Prague events for kids**

**Weekly events:**  
Wednesdays, 2-3 p.m.: **Arty Smarty** (ages 6-11). Explore and make different art every week at this drop-in program -- you’ll learn to make pop art, wire sculpture, a Picasso mask, and more!  
Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.: **Spotlight Storytime** (all ages). Join local notables for stories and fun for kids and families!  
Thursdays, 2-3 p.m.: **Crafty Science** (ages 6-11). Explore science concepts at this drop-in program with a different project each week -- you’ll learn about solar eclipses, make x-ray art, explore tangrams on a light table, and more!

**More events for kids:**

Tuesday, June 6, 10:30-11:30 a.m.: **Dr. Seuss Drop-In Party** (ages 3-8). *Seussian*

activities presented by the Scott County Library Teen Advisory Board.  
Tuesday, June 13, 10:30 and 11:30 a.m.: Summer Kickoff (all ages). **Magician Michael Madden** -- Enjoy the Magic of Reading Magic Show, with comedy and audience participation! Same shows at 10:30 and 11:30 a.m.  
Wednesday, June 14, 3:30-5 p.m.: **\*3-D Hogwarts Castle with Artistry** (ages 6-11). Create a miniature sculpture of Hogwarts Castle.  
Mondays, June 19, July 3, July 17, 2-2:45 p.m.: **Listen and Doodle** (ages 7-11). Doodle while you listen to a read-aloud of one of the brand new Maud Hart Lovelace nominees!  
Tuesday, June 20, 2-3 p.m.: **GamerBlast Drop-In Event** (ages 7-11). Blast your boredom with this *free* drop-in program featuring games, games, games!  
Monday, June 26, 2-3 p.m.: **4-H Lego WeDo Robotics Drop-In Event** (ages 6-11). Join the 4-H Lego Team for a fun *free* hands-on demo of WeDo Lego Robotics.  
Monday, July 10, 2-2:45 p.m.: **\*Mr. Lemoncello’s Escape Room** (ages 8-11). Search for secret compartments, find hidden clues, and solve puzzles to plot your escape from Mr. Lemoncello’s library.  
Tuesday, July 18, 10:30-11 a.m.: **Make a Cornhusk Kid** with the Scott County Historical Society (ages 6-11). Make a special cornhusk kid to take home!  
Friday, July 21, 10:30-11:15 a.m.: **\*Geocaching with Three Rivers Park District** (ages 10 and up). Use GPS units (provided) to find a hidden surprise outside the library.



**The Schifflerly Puppets will be at the New Prague Library on July 24.**

Monday, July 24, 10:30-11 a.m.: **Schifflerly Puppets.** Cinder-Freckle-Frog-Faced-Ella (all ages). *Funded by the New Prague Friends of the Library.*  
Tuesday, July 25, 2-3:30 p.m.: **\*Rainbow Trolls Workshop** (ages 6-11). Create your own Rainbow Troll clay character with the help of local artist Maureen Carlson.  
Tuesday, Aug. 1, 10:30-11:30 a.m.: **STEM Explorers Drop-In Event** (ages 3-8). Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math for the younger crowd!  
Tuesday, Aug. 1, 2-3 p.m.: **\*Pioneer Life Mini-Camp** (ages 9-12). Find out what it was like to grow up as a pioneer kid!  
Monday, Aug. 7, 2-2:45 p.m.: **Professor Prchal Science and Engineering Extravaganza** (ages 6-11). Professor Anna is back with science and engineering tricks.

**New Prague events for teens**

**All events are on Thursdays, 4-5 p.m. unless otherwise noted.**  
*For ages 12 and up. Register to guarantee your spot.*  
June 8: **Haunted Library Escape Room.** “Locked” in a room with only one way out! Search for secret compartments, find hidden clues, and solve puzzles to plot your escape in one hour.  
June 15: **Summer Sign Workshop.** Join local artist Kristin Kilgren of Block. Paper.Scissors. and express yourself by stenciling and painting your own summer-themed 12”x5.5” sign!  
June 22, 4-6 p.m.: **Urban Art with Artistry** Explore the various artists and styles of Urban Art. We practice painting various “urban-style” text, develop our own “tags,” and create one large scale

painted work.  
June 29: **Gamercon.** Battle other teens in our *free* single-player Super Smash Bros tournament held on our big screen, match wits with some board games, and more gaming fun!  
July 6: **Speedbooking.** Mix it up with pizza and our newest books!  
July 13: **Win the Money Game!** Test your financial smarts in this fun program hosted by Shawna from U of M Extension!  
July 20, 4-6 p.m.: **\*“Show and Tell”**



**Descriptive Writing Workshop** with Author Jacqueline West  
Friday, July 21, 10:30-11:15 a.m.: **Geocaching with Three Rivers Park**

District (ages 10 and up). Use GPS units (provided) to find a hidden surprise outside the library.  
July 27: **Decoupage Initials.** Decorate the first letter of your name with Instagram pics, Facebook pics, or whatever book art you like!  
Aug. 3: **Speedbooking.** Mix it up with pizza and our newest books!  
Wednesday, Aug. 9, 9:30 a.m.-noon: **ACT Test Prep Breakfast.** Take an ACT Pre-Test and Subject Practice Test and access many more *free* resources for getting ready for the real ACT.  
August 10: **Feed Me.** Learn (and sample!) three different recipes and even get a *free* journal/pen set to keep great recipes in!

**Prior Lake events for kids**

**Weekly events:**  
Mondays, 1-2 p.m.: **Waggin’ Tales** (ages 6-11). Drop-in to read to a certified therapy dog!  
Tuesdays, 2-3 p.m.: **Arty Smarty** (ages 6-11). Explore and create different art each week at this drop-in program!  
Wednesdays, 2-3 p.m.: **Crafty Science** (ages 6-11). Explore science concepts at this drop-in program with a different take-home project each week!  
Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.: **Spotlight Storytime** (all ages). Join local notables for stories and fun for kids and families!  
Thursdays, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.: **Reading Buddies** (all ages). Read to or with our youth volunteers.  
Saturdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m.: **Grand Readers** (all ages). Drop-in for stories from a special volunteer.

**More kid events:**

Saturday, June 10, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. (activities and crafts at 11:30, program begins at noon): Summer Kickoff (ages 3-11). Snake Discovery **“Snake, Rattle, and Roll” Animal Program** -- Slither into the world of reptiles by touching, holding, and even feeding some scaly critters at this fun program!  
Monday, June 12, 6:30-7:30 p.m.: **Dr. Seuss Drop-In Party** (ages 3-8). *Seussian* activities presented by the Scott County Library Teen Advisory Board.  
Fridays, June 16, 23, July 7, 14, 21, 28, 2-2:30 p.m.: **Listen and Doodle** (ages 7-11). Doodle while you listen to a read-aloud of one of the brand new Maud Hart Lovelace nominees!  
Mondays, June 19, July 17, 31, 10:30-11 a.m.: **\*Book Explorers** (ages 4-6 and an adult). A combination of book club and storytime!  
Monday, June 19, July 17, 2-3 p.m.: **\*Popcorn Club** (ages 9-11). Mix it up with popcorn and books.  
Tuesday, June 20, 10:30-11 a.m.: **Make a Cornhusk Kid** with the Scott County Historical Society (ages 6-11). Make a special cornhusk kid to take home!  
Tuesday, June 20, 2-3 p.m.: **\*Pioneer Life Mini-Camp** (ages 9-12). Find out what it was like to grow up as a pioneer kid!  
Friday, June 23, 10-11:15 a.m. (activities and crafts at 10 a.m., performance at 10:30 a.m.): **Ralph’s World Concert and READING PROGRAM to page 13**



# 4-H offers programs on robotics, super heroes, knitting, fitness, and more

Parents, how fast did that school year go? Many parents like you are now looking for positive options for their kids to occupy their summer hours. Out of school time programs for kids today can have strong positive effects on children’s academic, social, and emotional lives. The National Institute on Out of School Time says that this is especially true for students whose personal circumstances put them at higher risk of school failure. Some research even suggests that what students do during their out- of-school time hours has as much bearing on their success as what they do during school days.

This is why it is so important to get your children involved in programming that will make a lasting impact on their lives. The 4-H program offers kids today to be involved in a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills.

This summer, the University of Minnesota Scott County Extension 4-H Youth Development Program has a huge menu of events for all children in Scott County to become involved. Programs will be taking place in several sites in Scott County: Jordan, Belle Plaine, New Prague, Prior Lake, and Shakopee. You do not need to be enrolled in the 4-H program to attend any of the events; all programs are open to all families throughout the County. Please call (952) 492-5388 or email Sara Wagner at dunc0088@umn.edu at the Scott County 4-H Office with questions on any 4-H events this summer or to learn more about becoming a 4-H member or an adult volunteer.

**4-H Super Heroes:** Join 4-H for a morning/afternoon of fun with crafts, games, and songs. We will learn about your Super Hero power and meet some new friends. Open for K-5th graders.

Monday, June 12, 9 - noon in Jordan (Register at Jordan Community Education)

Tuesday, June 13, 9 - noon at Twin Oaks Middle School, Prior Lake (Register at Prior Lake-Savage Community Education)

Wednesday, June 28, 1 - 4 p.m. at Red Oak Elementary, Shakopee (Register at Shakopee Community Education)

**4-H Robotics:** Join 4-H in exploring the world of circuits, robots, and programming. We will use the “Lego We Do Robots” to learn about building and programing. You will work together with partners to compete multiple challenges to build and program Lego Robots. This is a beginner class for 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5th graders.

Monday, June 26, 9 - noon in Jordan (Register at Jordan Community Education)

Tuesday, August 1, 1 - 4 p.m. at Twin Oaks Middle School, Prior Lake (Register at Prior Lake-Savage Community Education)

Wednesday, August 2, 9 - noon at Jackson Elementary, Shakopee (register at Shakopee Community Education)

**4-H Kitchen Fundamentals for Kids:** Do you like to cook, or would you like to learn more about cooking? Join 4-H for a fun morning/afternoon of cooking. We will learn about knife skills, kitchen safety, and how to use a skillet and oven. Youth will work together in a team to complete a meal. This a beginner class for 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6th graders.

Tuesday June 27, 9 - noon at Twin Oaks Middle School, Prior Lake (Register at Prior Lake-Savage Community Education)

Wednesday June 28, 9 - noon at Red Oak Elementary, Shakopee (Register at Shakopee Community Education)

Monday July 31, 9 - noon in Jordan (Register at Jordan Community Education)

Wednesday, August 2, 1 - 4 p.m. at Jackson Elementary, Shakopee (Register at Shakopee Community Education)

**4-H Loom Knitting:** Have you ever wanted to learn how to make a scarf, hat, or even a blanket? Join us for a morning of loom knitting. Each student will leave with a hook, yarn, and loom and should be able to finish a simple hat as well as learn how to start other projects. Beginner class is for students who have completed kindergarten through 5th grade.

Thursday, June 22, 1 - 4 p.m. at Red Oak Elementary Shakopee (register at Shakopee Community Education)

Tuesday, June 27, 1 - 4 p.m. at Twin Oaks Middle School, Prior Lake (Register at Prior Lake-Savage Community Education)

**4-H Fun and Fitness:** How do you get your 30-60 minutes of movement each day? Join 4-H for three afternoons of fitness and fun. Hula hoops, jump ropes, sidewalk chalk, yoga, and kick-ball. We will learn some fun songs, games and have a healthy snack.

Tuesday, June 13, 1 - 4 p.m. at Twin Oaks Middle School, Prior Lake (Register at Prior Lake-Savage Community Education)

Tuesday through Thursday, July 11-13, 1 - 4 p.m. at Pearson Elementary, Shakopee (Register at Shakopee Community Education)

**Pinball Madness with 4-H:** *Bump, flip, bang, Spin, tilt!* Have you ever wondered how the game of pinball works? If so, this is a day for you! Build a pin-ball game. You’ll put your creation to the test at the end with a pinball tournament. You’ll also have a chance to try other games. For youth entering grades 1 through 6.

Thursday, June 22, 9 - noon at Red Oak Elementary, Shakopee (register at Shakopee Community Education)

Tuesday, August 1, 9 - noon at Twin Oaks Middle School, Prior Lake (Register at Prior Lake-Savage Community Education)

**4-H Inspector Gadget:** Do you like to learn how things work? Do you like to make little gadgets? Enter the world of Mr. Inspector Gadget. We will explore what it takes to become an undercover spy by making marshmallow shooters, spy glasses, and other spy gadgets while conducting experiments to catch our mystery criminal. For youth entering grades 1 through 6.

Tuesday thru Thursday, July 11 - 13; 9 - noon at Pearson Elementary, Shakopee (register at Shakopee Community Education)

**Robotics and Books:** School age children can join us for hands on learning about robotics, circuits, and Legos. 4-H teen leaders and adult volunteers will have stations set up for you to rotate through. We will also have some fun Engineer and Design themed book ideas. Check out the Library Summer Reading Program schedule in this issue of the *SCENE* for more information.



The Credit River Antique Tractor Club Show and Flea Market will be held July 14-16 at Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park near New Prague.

## Enjoy summertime events in Scott County

Summer is the *perfect* time to attend a variety of festivals, get acquainted with other Scott County residents, and spend time with old friends. Below is a schedule of some of the upcoming local events in and around your community. Please contact Lisa Kohner, Scott County Public Affairs Coordinator, at (952) 496-8780 if you would like to have your organization’s activities or special events highlighted in next year’s summer events issue. And be sure to check your local papers and community websites for further details – *happy summer!*

<b>Sunday, June 18</b>	Chicken Cookout at St. Nicholas Catholic Church, New Market
<b>Wednesday, June 21</b>	Ice Cream Social at St. John Lutheran Church in Belle Plaine
<b>June 22-25</b>	Dan Patch Days in Savage, including a parade on Saturday at 11 a.m. and fireworks at dusk Saturday.
<b>June 22-25</b>	Elko New Market Fire/Rescue Days, including a community parade at 1 p.m. Saturday, followed by games, food, and fun at Wagner Park.
<b>July 14-15</b>	Lakefront Music Fest in Prior Lake
<b>July 14-16</b>	Credit River Antique Tractor Club Show and Flea Market. Located at Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park (400 West 260th St., New Prague). For more information, visit <a href="http://cratractor.com/">http://cratractor.com/</a>
<b>July 14-16</b>	Bar-B-Q Days in Belle Plaine, including a grande day parade at noon on Saturday and fireworks Sunday evening
<b>July 16</b>	Free Ice Cream Social at St. Nicholas Catholic Church, New Market, 2 – 4 p.m.
<b>Sunday, July 23</b>	Parish Festival at St. Patrick’s Catholic Church in Cedar Lake Township
<b>July 26-30</b>	Scott County Fair (See page 3)
<b>July 29-30</b>	Parish of Saints Joachim & Anne’s Church of St. Mark Julifest in Shakopee,
<b>August 4-6</b>	54th Annual Old Time Harvest Steam and Gas Engine Festival
<b>August 3-5</b>	Lakefront Days in Prior Lake, including a parade on Saturday at 10 a.m.
<b>August 12-13</b>	Parish Festival at St. Wenceslaus, New Prague
<b>August 18-20</b>	Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community Wacipi or Pow Wow
<b>Sunday, August 20</b>	Parish of Saints Joachim & Anne’s St. Mary’s of the Purification Marystown Church Festival
<b>September 8-9</b>	Heimatfest at Lagoon Park in Jordan; car cruise and street dance Friday evening downtown Jordan; Saturday parade at 11 a.m. and fireworks at 9 p.m.
<b>Sunday, Sept. 10</b>	Parish Festival at Our Lady of the Prairie, Belle Plaine
<b>September 15-16</b>	Dozinky celebration in New Prague; car cruise Friday evening and parade at noon Saturday
<b>Sunday, Sept. 16-17</b>	St. John the Baptist Catholic Church Fall Festival in Jordan





in partnership with



Easy Fun – we’ve done the planning for you

It’s a gorgeous summer day, and you’ve got some free time to get out and enjoy it. But you haven’t planned your trek in advance; what can you do? In Scott County Parks, plenty! Whether you have 30 minutes or a half day, here are some ways to enjoy the parks that are free or low cost, family-friendly, and require little or no advanced planning.

Quick Spin Around the Trails

Spring Lake Regional Park (30 minutes)  
The park has 3 miles of paved trails — perfect for a quick bike ride or run (ideal for those training for 5Ks).

Take a Kid to Cleary

Cleary Lake Regional Park (1.5 to 3 hours)  
Try footgolf. It’s played on the golf course, but participants kick a soccer ball into a hole instead of hitting a golf ball with a club. Soccer ball rental is available at the visitor center. Or go swimming at the beach, and enjoy a healthy snack at the visitor center.

Build Your Own Triathlon

Cleary Lake Regional Park (2 to 3 hours)  
Go for a swim at the beach, bike around Cleary Lake (3.5 miles), and run/walk the Ironwood turf trail (3.5 miles). No bike? Rent a paddleboat, canoe, kayak, row boat or stand-up paddleboard and paddle around the lake.

Fun on the Farm

Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park (½ day)  
Go swimming at the beach, fish in the lake, pack a picnic or grill out for lunch, and toss a Frisbee or play catch on the lawn.

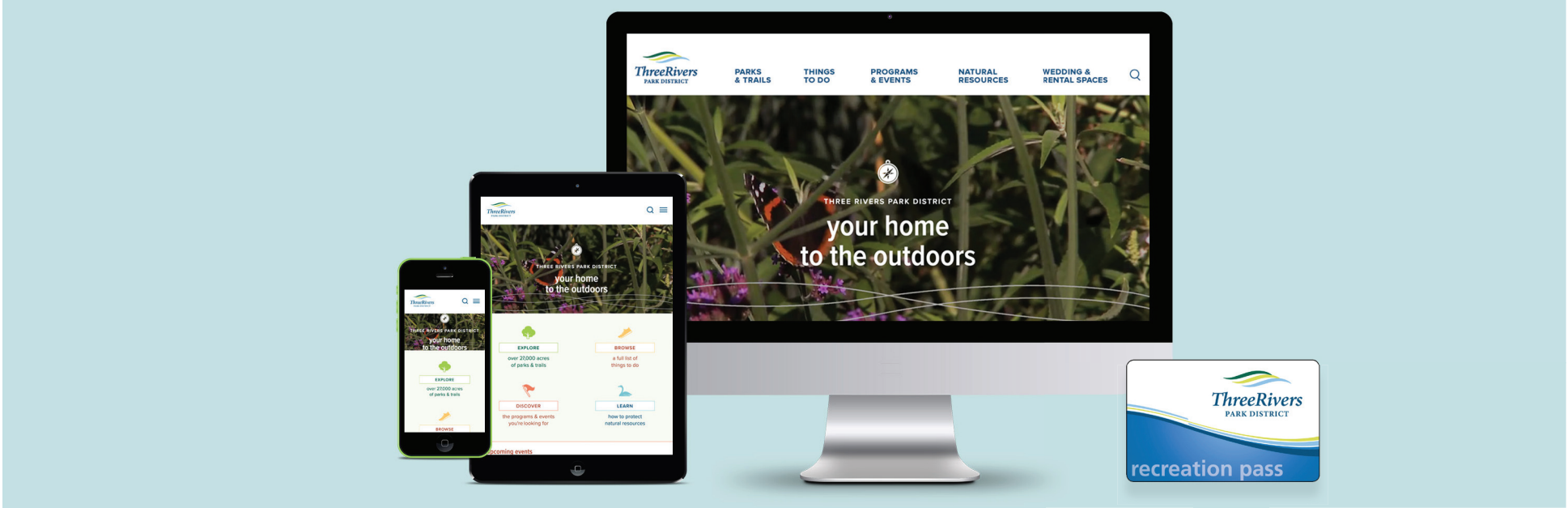
Wilderness Close to Home

Murphy-Hanrehan Park Reserve (½ day)  
Experience mountain biking on the trails at Murphy-Hanrehan. The park has 3.2 miles of beginner and intermediate trails, which are a perfect way to gain confidence with the sport. Or go for a run or hike on the turf trails — the park has 18 miles of trail to explore. Stop for a picnic lunch at intersection 12 for a view of the downtown Minneapolis skyline or intersection 36 for a vista of the wildflower prairie.



Joint Powers Agreement

Under this agreement, Scott County and Three Rivers Park District combine resources to collectively operate all regional parks and trails in Scott County.



A new online experience

We’re excited to announce the launch of a new online experience for Three Rivers. ThreeRiversParks.org has a fresh design that works great on any device, so you can find what you need whether you’re at home, at work or enjoying time in the parks.

A popular new feature is the site’s interactive mapping. When on the “Parks & Trails” tab, click on the “Find My Location” icon to see exactly where you are on a trail or what parks are closest to you. You can also use the maps to choose a trail route and find things to do in the parks.

Browse what you can do in the parks and where on the “Things to Do” tab. You can also learn details about trails, dog off-leash areas and more on a specific park or trail page. Hopefully this information helps you get out and check out a new park or hobby.

The online shopping experience is easier than ever. Visit ThreeRiversParks.org/WebTrac to check availability of programs and events, campsites, picnic areas, rooms, passes, and more. Because it’s a new system, you will need to create a new account. To get started, click the link

next to “Need an Account.” It won’t take long to get your account set up, and then you’ll be ready the next time you want to register for a program, reserve a campsite or picnic area, or purchase a pass. Speaking of reservations, in addition to campsites, group camps and picnic areas can now also be reserved online.

In conjunction with the upgraded reservation system, a significant enhancement has been made to recreation passes. Instead of managing individual paper passes, an all-in-one Recreation Pass Card is all you need. One card can be used for the annual dog off-leash areas, disc golf, swim ponds, archery ranges and horse trails. The card fits in your pocket or wallet and is easily reloadable. Annual passes are now good for 12 months from the date of purchase, and we’ll remind you when it’s time to renew. Cross-country ski passes will also be available on the Recreation Pass Card when the weather gets cold.

The new online experience at ThreeRiversParks.org is up and running, so check it out! We think you’re going to love it. If you have questions, please email webfeedback@threeriversparks.org or call 763.559.9000.



# parks & trails

check [ThreeRiversParks.org](https://www.threeriversparks.org) for additional information

## Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park

25875 Juniper Avenue, New Prague, MN 56071  
Phone: 763.694.7777, Hours: 5 AM–10 PM

Located on the south shore of Cedar Lake near New Prague, the former Cedar Lake Farm and Day Resort property has family and group picnicking, catered events, swimming, and fishing.

### camp

Cedarview Group Camp is available for tent camping, with a capacity up to 30 people. Call 763.559.6700 for reservations.

### picnic area

Dine al fresco. This site offers a spectacular setting for a casual family picnic or a unique family reunion, graduation party, outdoor wedding/reception, company picnic, and groups of all ages and all occasions. We recommend you visit the park well before your event date to explore the options you have to choose from. While there are no fully-enclosed group reservation areas, a picnic shelter is available. Call 763.559.6700 for reservations.

## Cleary Lake Regional Park

18106 Texas Avenue, Prior Lake, MN 55372  
Phone: 763.694.7777, Hours: 5 AM–10 PM

This park is one of the most popular year-round recreation spots in the south metro. With amenities including a 9-hole golf course, campground, picnic area, swimming beach, cross-country ski trails and more, this beautiful park has something for everyone.

### boat rental & fishing pier

A launch is located on the south shore of Cleary Lake; no gas motors are allowed. Boat rentals for paddleboat, canoe, kayak, row boat or stand-up paddleboard are available. An accessible fishing pier is located on Cleary Lake. Anglers must have a valid Minnesota fishing license.

### camp

Roughing it was never so easy! Several campsites ranging in size are located in Cleary Lake Park for outdoor enthusiasts. Visit [ThreeRiversParks.org](https://www.threeriversparks.org) for more information.

### dog off-leash area

A 28-acre off-leash area provides great opportunities to exercise dogs. The area is fenced and has a wetland pond. Daily or annual pass is required.

### golf

The scenic terrain of Cleary Lake Golf Course draws both beginner and experienced golfers. The 9-hole executive course and driving range offer a full range of amenities for an all-around enjoyable experience. The course also features FootGolf where you kick a soccer ball towards a proportionate-sized hole using the same rules of golf. At the Golf Academy, our most important goal is to maximize your enjoyment of the game of golf. Group and private lessons, clinics and camps are available for youth and adults. For more information or to register, visit [ThreeRiversParks.org](https://www.threeriversparks.org).

### picnic areas

The southeast shore of Cleary Lake serves both picnickers and swimmers. The area features the Cleary Lake Pavilion – a great spot for casual wedding receptions, corporate events and birthday parties – and both sheltered reservation and non-reservation picnic sites. Call 763.559.6700 for reservations.

## Murphy-Hanrehan Park Reserve

15501 Murphy Lake Road, Savage, MN 55378  
Phone: 763.694.7777, Hours: 5 AM–10 PM

The peaceful wilderness at Murphy-Hanrehan Park Reserve in northeast Scott County features glacial ridges, hilly terrain and an extensive lush forest. This is one of the most challenging cross-country ski areas in the Twin Cities and a favorite spot for mountain bikers. With the exception of the trails and the new 3-acre dog off-leash area, the park reserve remains undeveloped, making it the best park in Three Rivers for birdwatchers to spot woodland songbirds. This park has also been designated an Important Bird Area by the National Audubon Society.

### boat launch

Enjoy the placid waters. A concrete boat launch is located off County Road 75. No gas motors or gas augers are allowed; electric trolling motors only.

### dog off-leash area

The fenced, 3-acre area includes space for large and small dogs to run and includes a water fountain and a dog washing station. Daily or annual pass is required.

### camp

Group horse campsites are located in the southern section of the park and accommodates up to 20 horses. Reservations are required.



### boat rental

Stand-up paddleboards, kayaks and canoes are available for rent Fridays–Sundays and holidays from Memorial Day weekend (Saturday) to Labor Day. Rental hours are 10 AM to 7 PM.

### swimming & fishing

Cool off during the hot days in Cedar Lake or cast a line from shore or the fishing pier. Anglers must have a valid Minnesota fishing license.



### play area

A small play area is located near the picnic pavilion and boat rental. It features a variety of slides, tunnels, nets and other climbing components.

### swimming beach

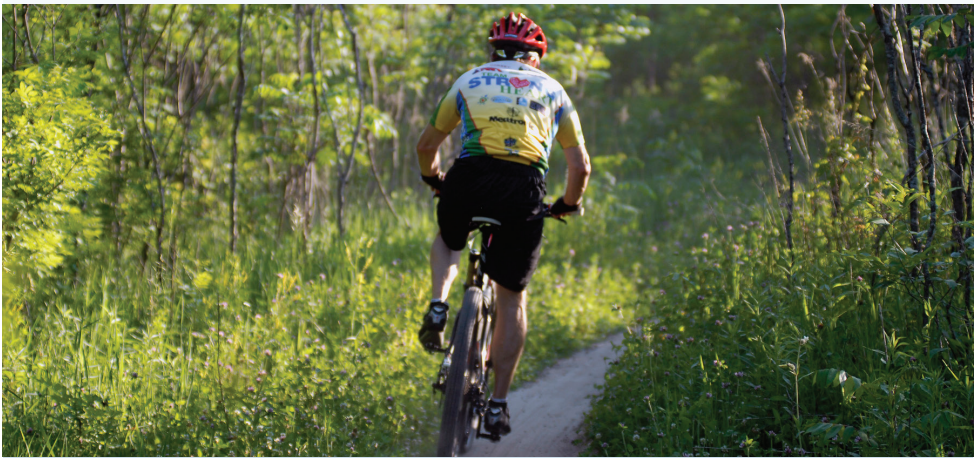
Splish, splash! An unguarded beach is open from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day.

### trails

Get your blood pumping with a brisk walk. A trail with rest stops and a water pump loops around Cleary Lake. The trail has connections leading to both the east and west for access from outside the park. Walk your dog on miles of trails that wind through the park. Dogs are allowed on all paved trails with a 6-foot, non-retractable leash.

### visitor center

A year-round facility provides concessions, restrooms, a lounge area, meeting room, and exhibits. In the summer, the visitor center serves as a golf course clubhouse. In the winter, the building serves as the trailhead for cross-country ski trails.



### mountain bike trail

A singletrack mountain bike trail with advanced, intermediate, and easy loops is offered on this 10-mile sustainable trail. The course is open year-round and presses riders with several technical features and varying levels of difficulty. Year-round races are available; visit [ThreeRiversParks.org](https://www.threeriversparks.org) for more information.

### trails

Roam the pristine expanse at your pace. The hiking-only Wood Duck trail is very hilly and takes hikers through oak woods. Riders can enjoy the scenic beauty of this park reserve on horseback year-round. A trailer parking lot is available. A daily pass or annual permit is required for horseback riders. The dog trail at Murphy-Hanrehan is a part of the horse trail. The trail can be accessed from the horse trailer parking lot on Sunset Lake Road. Dog-walkers are required to keep their dogs on 6-foot, non-retractable leashes.



## Spring Lake Regional Park

15851 Howard Lake Road, Prior Lake, MN 55372  
Phone: 763.694.7777, Hours: 5 AM–10 PM daily

Located on the north shore of Spring Lake and near the southwest shore of Prior Lake, Spring Lake Regional Park offers 374 acres of incredibly diverse natural habitats. Every day, eagles readily soar in the sky. The old maple-basswood forest creates a beautiful backdrop for a peaceful stroll. A small creek winds through a maze of open water wetlands, cattail marshes and a tamarack bog.

### dog off-leash area

A 10-acre, off-leash pet area with a watering and rinsing station provides a wonderful opportunity for dog owners to exercise their dogs. There are two separate, fully fenced areas: 9 acres for large dogs and 1 acre for small and frail dogs. A daily or annual pass is required. An automated pay box on site accepts credit and debit cards for daily passes.

### trails

A spectacular, 3-mile paved trail takes visitors through forest and future savanna prairie offering breathtaking vistas. Each season provides a unique opportunity to explore the beautiful habitat that supports a variety of wildlife. The trail connects the park from north to south, as well as to County Road 12. Dogs are allowed on all paved trails with a 6-foot, non-retractable leash.

## The Landing

2187 Highway 101 East, Shakopee, MN 55379  
Phone: 763.694.7784  
Hours: Memorial Day weekend–October 31  
Mon-Sat: 10 AM–5 PM, Sun: Noon–5 PM

Nestled on the Minnesota River near Shakopee, The Landing – Minnesota River Heritage Park (formerly Historic Murphy’s Landing) interprets how people have connected with the Minnesota River Valley and the surrounding cultural and natural resources. Discover how 19th-century Minnesotans established their lives on the frontier, farmsteads and in villages. Historical buildings are laid out as a timeline from the pre-territorial era through the late 1800s. Explore the grounds by yourself using interpretive media or while costumed interpreters bring the past alive at living history days and events. The Landing is available by reservation for groups, weddings, and celebrations. Special events and scheduled programs are offered throughout the year. **Pets are not allowed.**

### living history days

Join scheduled tours, hands-on activities – maybe even meet someone right off the pages of history. Offered Wednesdays through Sundays May 31 to September 1, see page 12 for additional details or call 763.694.7784 for daily schedule.

### themed living history events

Explore more and immerse yourself in a different aspect of 1800s life in the Minnesota Valley at each event. Visit with costumed characters living in the frontier, farmstead, and village. Horse-drawn trolleys provide transportation throughout the site. Food concessions available. Offered year-round; see page 12 for additional details or visit ThreeRiversParks.org for the complete schedule.



### fishing

Shore fishing is accessible on Spring Lake from the park. Use the parking lot on the south side of County Road 12 to access the lake.



### self-guided tours

Connect with stories of the site through interpretive brochures, cell phone stops and signs. Self-guided tour experiences are free of charge and available during regular operating hours.

### hiking and fishing

A 1.1-mile, unpaved hiking trail offers scenic views of the river and some of the best bird watching in the Twin Cities. The river banks also provide great fishing opportunities.

Dial-a-Ride to a Park, now available evenings and weekends – SmartLinkTransit.com • 952-496-8341



## Midsummer Festival

Saturday, July 15, 2017

Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park, 25875 Juniper Avenue, New Prague

### Credit River Antique Tractor Club Show

- Parade 1 PM
- Crafts, Blacksmithing, Rope Making
- Flea Market
- Food Concessions

### 10 AM–5 PM

- Ongoing Music and Entertainment
- Canoe, Kayak, Archery Demos
- Fishing Clinics, Pond Study
- Inflatable Bouncers
- In conjunction with the Credit River Antique Tractor Show

Fun for All • Free Event

Co-sponsored by:



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## golf in the parks



### BAKER NATIONAL GOLF COURSE

- Medina | 763.694.7670
- 18-Hole Championship Course
  - 9-Hole Executive Course
  - FootGolf

### CLEARY LAKE GOLF COURSE

- Prior Lake | 763.694.7777
- 9-Hole Executive Course
  - FootGolf

### EAGLE LAKE YOUTH GOLF CENTER

- Plymouth | 763.694.7695
- 9-Hole Executive Course
  - Lighted Range and Pitch and Putt
  - FootGolf

### GLEN LAKE GOLF & PRACTICE CENTER

- Minnetonka | 763.694.7824
- 9-Hole Executive Course

No coupons or travel! Lessons, leagues, and group outings available



Wild West Weekend at The Landing  
Don't miss the excitement!  
details on page 12



# event calendar

## CEDAR LAKE FARM REGIONAL PARK NEW PRAGUE

★ **FAMILY STAND-UP PADDLEBOARDING (SUP)**  
Embark on a casual paddle around the lake. Listen and watch for wildlife. Children ages 9 and younger must ride on an adult’s board; maximum one child per adult. Reservations required by two days prior. \$20 ages 10+; children under 10 free. Ages: 5+.  
**June 17 — Saturday #3CLE5765-01 10:30–Noon**

★ **GEOCACHING FOR S'MORES**  
Yummy, gooey s’mores! Learn geocaching basics and search for delicious treasure. Equipment provided. Reservations required by two days prior. \$8. Ages: All.  
**June 17 — Saturday #3CLE5500-01 2–4 PM**  
**July 29 — Saturday #3CLE5500-02 10 AM–Noon**

**FAMILY KAYAKING**  
Create memories of fun on the water. Learn kayaking safety and proper paddling techniques. Equipment provided. Reservations required by two days prior. \$20. Ages: 8+.  
**June 24 #2CLE5745-01**  
**August 19 #2CLE5745-02**  
**Saturdays, 9–11 AM**

**STAND-UP PADDLEBOARD (SUP) LESSON**  
Try the fast-growing sport of stand-up paddleboarding, an exciting way to explore the water that offers a full body workout. Equipment provided. Reservations required by two days prior. \$35. Ages: 14+.  
**June 24 — Saturday #3CLE5760-01 1–2:30 PM**  
**July 29 — Saturday #3CLE5760-02 2–3:30 PM**

★ **FAMILY ARCHERY**  
Explore the basics of archery and elements of safety. Shoot at stationary targets and compete in games. Equipment provided. Reservations required by two days prior. \$10. Ages: 7+.  
**July 1 — Saturday #3CLE5000-01 5–7 PM**

★ **CANOE WHEN THE MOON IS FULL**  
Paddle under the full moon. Listen for wildlife while enjoying the night sky. Equipment provided. Reservations required by two days prior. \$8. Ages: 5+.  
**July 8 — Saturday #3CLE0220-01 8–10 PM**

★ **PIONEER OLYMPICS**  
Throw an atlatl, toss an axe like a lumberjack, and try other games and activities. Learn about historic people in Minnesota. Equipment provided. Reservations required by two days prior. \$8. Ages: 8+.  
**July 1 — Saturday #3CLE2550-01 1:30–3 PM**



**MIDSUMMER FESTIVAL**  
Enjoy music and entertainment from local talent. Try fishing, kayaking, canoeing, and archery, and burn some energy in inflatable bouncers. Food concessions available. In conjunction with the Credit River Antique Tractor Show. Free. Ages: All.  
**July 15 — Saturday #3CLE0300-01 10 AM–5 PM**

## CLEARY LAKE REGIONAL PARK PRIOR LAKE

**FAMILY KAYAKING**  
Create memories of fun on the water. Learn kayaking safety and proper paddling techniques. Equipment provided. Reservations required by two days prior. \$20. Ages: 8+.  
**June 17 — Saturday #3CLE5745-11 2–4 PM**  
**July 9 — Sunday #3CLE5745-12 9–11 AM**

**STAND-UP PADDLEBOARD (SUP) LESSON**  
Try the fast-growing sport of stand-up paddleboarding, an exciting way to explore the water that offers a full body workout. Equipment provided. Reservations required by two days prior. \$35. Ages: 14+.  
**June 17 — Saturday #3CLE5760-11 6–7:30 PM**  
**August 12 — Saturday #3CLE5760-12 2–3:30 PM**

★ **GEOCACHING FOR S'MORES**  
Yummy, gooey s’mores! Learn geocaching basics and search for delicious treasure. Equipment provided. Reservations required by two days prior. \$8. Ages: All.  
**June 24 — Saturday #3CLE5500-11 1–3 PM**

★ **FAMILY ARCHERY**  
Explore the basics of archery and elements of safety. Shoot at stationary targets and compete in games. Equipment provided. Reservations required by two days prior. \$10. Ages: 8+.  
**July 1 — Saturday #3CLE5000-11 1–3 PM**

**FULL MOON STAND-UP PADDLEBOARD (SUP)**  
Paddle under the light of the full moon. Previous stand-up paddleboard experience recommended. Equipment provided. Reservations required by two days prior. \$20. Ages: 14+.  
**July 8 — Saturday #3CLE0260-11 8:30–10 PM**

★ **FAMILY FISHING**  
Learn about types of fish, preparing equipment, bait, and handling the fish once they’re caught. Equipment and fishing license provided for class only. Reservations required by two days prior. \$6. Ages: All.  
**July 29 — Saturday #3CLE5400-11 10 AM–Noon**

★ **PIONEER OLYMPICS**  
Throw an atlatl, toss an axe like a lumberjack, and try other games and activities. Learn about historic people in Minnesota. Equipment provided. Reservations required by two days prior. \$8. Ages: 8+.  
**July 29 — Saturday #3CLE2550-11 2–3:30 PM**

## THE LANDING MINNESOTA RIVER HERITAGE PARK SHAKOPEE

**WILD WEST WEEKEND**  
Meet lawmen and gunslingers of the 1800s, hear tall tales of the frontier, and experience reenactments of popular western legends. Watch cowboys and cowgirls crack whips and spin ropes, yodel with a cowboy, and enjoy a stage presentation by the River Valley Theatre Company. Horse-drawn trolleys provide transportation through the site. Food concessions available. Enter at the east entrance. Last entry at 4 PM. Reserve a spot in advance for the Chuck Wagon Dinner following the program on Saturday. \$8 ages 18-64; \$5 ages 2-17 and 65+; children under 2 free. Ages: All.  
**June 17 — Saturday #3LAN0300-01 10 AM–5 PM**  
**June 18 — Sunday #3LAN0300-02 Noon–5 PM**

**CHUCK WAGON DINNER**  
Enjoy a cowboy-themed dinner catered by Mr. Pig Stuff BBQ. Enjoy live music by singing cowboy, Lonesome Ron. Reservations required by June 12. \$25 ages 18-64; \$11 ages 2-17 and 65+; children under 2 free. Ages: All.  
**June 17 — Saturday #3LAN0320-01 6–9 PM**

**DOWN ON THE FARM**  
Experience life on a Minnesota farm during the late 1800s. Care for animals, make butter, and put up hay. Horse-drawn trolleys provide transportation through the site. Food concessions available. Enter at the east entrance. Last entry at 4 PM. \$8 ages 18-64; \$5 ages 2-17 and 65+; children under 2 free. Ages: All.  
**July 1 — Saturday #3LAN0305-01 10 AM–5 PM**  
**July 2 — Sunday #3LAN0305-02 Noon–5 PM**

**INDEPENDENCE DAY 1889**  
Celebrate America’s birthday. Join a parade, play yard games and churn ice cream. Watch historic baseball and listen to a brass band. Meet raptors from Richardson Nature Center. Horse-drawn trolleys provide transportation through the site. Food concessions available. Enter at the east entrance. Last entry at 4 PM. \$8 ages 18-64; \$5 ages 2-17 and 65+; children under 2 free. Ages: All.  
**July 4 — Tuesday #3LAN0310-01 10 AM–5 PM**



## OFFSITE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SCOTT COUNTY

@ **ARCHERY PARK**  
22331 Union Trail, Belle Plaine

**LIVING OUTSIDE SURVIVAL TRAINING (LOST)**  
Leave the adults at home and practice wilderness safety and fire and shelter building. Equipment provided. Reservations required by two days prior. \$5. Ages: 8-17.  
**July 8 — Saturday #3CLE5200-01 4–6 PM**

@ **REZAC NATURE CENTER**  
7840 Garfield Ave, Lonsdale

**FAMILY FISHING**  
Learn about types of fish, preparing equipment, bait, and handling the fish once they’re caught. Equipment and fishing license provided for class only. Reservations required by two days prior. \$6. Ages: All.  
**June 24 — Saturday #3CLE5401-11 9–11 AM**

**FAMILY ARCHERY**  
Explore the basics of archery and elements of safety. Shoot at stationary targets and compete in games. Equipment provided. Reservations required by two days prior. \$10. Ages: 7+.  
**August 5 — Saturday #3CLE5001-01 3:30–5:30 PM**

NEW REGISTRATION SYSTEM

Three Rivers has a new online experience and registration system. Explore your home to the outdoors at [ThreeRiversParks.org/webtrac](https://ThreeRiversParks.org/webtrac) and create a new account to register for programs.

FOR ASSISTANCE CALL  
763.559.6700

REGISTRATION INFORMATION  
**763.559.6700**  
**ThreeRiversParks.org**  
**Mon. – Fri. 8 AM–4:30 PM**

**Scholarship Information**  
Applications are considered on the basis of financial need and funds available. Call for details.

**Refunds**  
Pre-paid registrations canceled at least 15 days in advance are 100 percent refundable; less than 15 days and more than 5 days are 50 percent refundable; and 5 days or less are not refundable. Programs will take place rain or shine. If a program is canceled by park staff, you will be notified and a full refund or credit will be issued upon your request.

★ **GROUP PROGRAM DISCOUNTS**  
Groups of four or more individuals can receive a 20% discount on any program with an asterisk (★) in the title. To receive the discount:

- Entire group must pay related fees at the same time.
- If reservations are not required, ask for the discount when you arrive at the program.

summer camps

Fun-filled adventure! Kids can explore nature, be a woodland fairy, go fishing, play golf, work on the farm, and even travel back in time. Three Rivers offers affordable summer camps for children ages 4–15 that are conveniently located. Registration now open.

Camps vary by location  
763.559.6700 • [ThreeRiversParks.org](https://ThreeRiversParks.org)



# Library Summer Reading Program

Continued from page 7

**Party** (all ages). Highly danceable music by Ralph Covert of the hugely popular kiddie band Ralph’s World!

Monday, June 26, 6:30-7:30 p.m.: **GamerBlast Drop-In Event** (ages 7-11). Blast your boredom with this *free* drop-in program featuring games, games, games!

Wednesday, June 28, July 12, 26, 4-4:45 p.m.: **\*Book Club** (ages 7-9)

Monday, July 10, 6:30-7:30 p.m.: **STEM Explorers Drop-In Event** (ages 3-8). Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math for the younger crowd!

Tuesday, July 11, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.: **\*3-D Hogwarts Castle with Artistry** (ages 6-11). Create a miniature sculpture of Hogwarts Castle.

Tuesday, July 18, 10:30-11:30 a.m.: **4-H Lego WeDo Robotics Drop-In Event** (ages 6-11). Join the 4-H Lego Team for a fun *free* hands-on demo.

Thursday, July 20, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.: **Kids and Teens Book Sale**

Monday, July 24, 6:30-7:30 p.m.: **Captain Underpants Drop-In Party** (ages 6-11). Fun and games based on the popular books and new movie.

Tuesday, July 25, 10:30-11:15 a.m.: **\*Mr. Lemoncello’s Escape Room** (ages 8-11). Find hidden clues and solve puzzles to escape from Mr. Lemoncello’s library.

Thursday, July 27, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.: **\*Creating Characters Writing Workshop** (ages 9-11). Join author Jacqueline West in this writing workshop.

Monday, July 31, 2-3 p.m.: **\*Robot Mouse Coding Mini-Camp** (ages 8-11). Learn the basics of coding, then team up to get your Robot Mouse through mazes!

Monday, Aug. 7, 10:30-11:15 a.m.: **Professor Prchal Science and Engineering Extravaganza** (ages 6-11). Professor Anna is back with science and engineering tricks.

**Prior Lake events for teens**  
**All events are on Thursdays, 2-3 p.m. unless otherwise noted.**

*For ages 12 and up. Register to guarantee your spot.*

June 15: **Pie Club**. Mix it up with pies and our newest books!

Wednesday, June 21, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.: **ACT Test Prep Breakfast**. Take an ACT Pre-Test and Subject Practice Test and access many more *free* resources for getting ready for the real ACT.

June 22: **Gamercon**. Battle other teens in our *free* single-player Super Smash Bros tournament held on our big screen, match wits with some board games, and more gaming fun!

June 29: **Haunted Library Escape Room**. “Locked” in a room with only one way out! Search for secret compartments, find hidden clues, and solve puzzles to plot your escape in one hour.

July 6: **Pie Club**. Mix it up with pies and our newest books!

July 13: **Great Smartphone Photography**. Join Jordan for hands-on tips and tricks to take and share great photos with your smartphone or camera!

July 20: **Feed Me**. Learn (and sample!) three different recipes and even get a *free* journal/pen set to keep great recipes in!

July 27 (2-4 p.m.): **YouCubes with Artistry**. Collage, sculpt, draw and paint to turn Xerox images, drawings, and illustrations about you into a 3D “YouCube.”

Aug. 3: **Win the Money Game!** Test your financial smarts in this fun program hosted by Shawna from U of M Extension!

Aug. 10: **Decoupage Initials**. Decorate the first letter of your name with Instagram pics, Facebook pics, or any book art!

**Savage events for kids**  
**Weekly events:**  
Mondays and Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.: **Spotlight Storytime** (all ages). Join local

notables for stories and fun for kids and families!

Mondays, 4-6 p.m.: **Arty Smarty** (ages 6-11). Explore and create different art each week at this drop-in program!

Wednesdays, 4-6 p.m.: **Crafty Science** (ages 6-11). Explore science concepts at this drop-in program with a different take-home project each week!

**More events for kids:**  
Thursdays at 5:30 p.m.; June 1, July 6, Aug. 3 at 5:30 p.m.: **Stories on the Pond** (all ages). Off-Site at Environmental Learning Center.

Saturdays, June 10, 24, July 8, 22, Aug. 5 at 11 a.m.: **Listen and Doodle** (ages 7-11). Doodle while you listen to a read-aloud of one of the brand new Maud Hart Lovelace nominees!

Monday, June 12, 10:30 a.m.: Summer Kickoff (ages 3-11). **Author and Musician Peter Pearson** -- A special visit from Peter Pearson, author of the very silly book, *How to Eat an Airplane*.

Tuesdays, June 13, July 11, Aug. 8, 4-5 p.m.: **Waggin’ Tales** (ages 6-11). Drop-in and read to a therapy dog.

Tuesday, June 13, 5:30-7:30 p.m.: **Father’s Day Cards Make and Take Drop-In Event** (all ages). *Sponsored and by the Savage Area Women of Today*.

Thursday, June 15, 10:30-11:30 a.m.: **\*Robot Mouse Coding Mini-Camp** (ages 8-11). Learn the basics of coding, then team up to get your Robot Mouse through mazes!

Thursdays, June 15, July 20, 6:30 p.m.: **Pajama Time** (all ages). Wear your jammies, bring your teddies, and come for fun stories, rhymes, and of course, cookies and milk!

Wednesday, June 21, 2-2:45 p.m.: **\*Mr. Lemoncello’s Escape Room** (ages 8-11). Find hidden clues and solve puzzles to escape from Mr. Lemoncello’s library.

Wednesday, June 21, 6:30 p.m.: **\*Cookie Club** (ages 9-11). Mix it up with cookies and books.

Thursday, June 22, 10:30-11:30 a.m.: **Art Explorers Drop-In Event** (ages 3-8). Art and science for the younger crowd!

Thursday, June 29, 10:30-11:15 a.m.: **Professor Prchal Science and Engineering Extravaganza** (ages 6-11). Professor Anna is back with science and engineering tricks.

Thursday, July 6, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.: **GamerBlast Drop-In Event** (ages 7-11). Blast your boredom with this *free* drop-in program featuring games, games, games!

Thursday, July 13, 10:30 a.m.: **Make a Cornhusk Kid** with the Scott County Historical Society (ages 6-11). Make a special cornhusk kid to take home!

Thursday, July 13, 2-3 p.m.: **\*Pioneer Life Mini-Camp** (ages 9-12). Find out what it was like to grow up as a pioneer.

Friday, July 14, 10:30-11:30 a.m.: **Dr. Seuss Drop-In Party** (ages 3-8). *Seussian* activities presented by the Scott County Library Teen Advisory Board.

Wednesday, July 19, 2-3 p.m.: **4-H Lego WeDo Robotics Drop-In Event** (ages 6-11). Join the 4-H Lego Team for a fun *free* hands-on demo.

Thursday, July 27, 10:30-11:30 a.m.: **STEM Explorers Drop-In Event** (ages 3-8). Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math for the younger crowd!

Monday, July 31, 10:30 a.m.: **StoryClay Teller** (all ages). Help local artist Maureen Carlson create a clay character and then tell the character’s story.

Tuesday, Aug. 1, 2-3:30 p.m.: **\*Robots + Aliens with Artistry** (ages 6-11). Create the coolest robots, freakiest aliens, and most awesome planets and spaceships you can imagine.

**Savage events for teens**  
**All events are on Thursdays, 3:30-5**

**p.m. unless otherwise noted.**  
*For ages 12 and up. Register to guarantee your spot.*

June 15: **Pie Club**. Mix it up with pies and our newest books!

June 22: **Tie Dye Sock Poi**. Create your own set of poi (tethered weights) with tube socks and sharpies and learn the basics of poi spinning.

Monday, June 26, 3-4 p.m.: **Paying for College** -- Financial aid options, planning for college, and earning college credit while still in high school. *Presented by the Financial Aid Office of Dakota County Technical College*.

June 29: **Feed Me**. Learn (and sample!) three different recipes and even get a *free* journal/pen set to keep great recipes in!

July 6: **Win the Money Game!** Test your financial smarts in this fun program hosted by Shawna from U of M Extension!

Wednesday, July 12, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.: **ACT Test Prep Breakfast**. Take an ACT Pre-Test and Subject Practice Test and access many more *free* resources for getting ready for the real ACT.

July 13: **Gamercon**. Battle other teens in our *free* single-player Super Smash Bros tournament held on our big screen, match wits with some board games, and more!

July 20: **Haunted Library Escape Room**. “Locked” in a room with only one way out! Search for secret compartments, find hidden clues, and solve puzzles to plot your escape in one hour.

July 27: **Creating Characters Writing Workshop** with Author Jacqueline West.

Aug. 3, 3:30-5:30 p.m.: **8-Bit Art**. Make your own 8-Bit art using Perler beads and Post-it notes!

Friday, Aug. 4, 1-1:45 p.m.: **Geocaching with Three Rivers Park District** (ages 10 and up). Use GPS units (provided) to find a hidden surprise outside the library.

Aug. 10, 3:30-5:30 p.m.: **Urban Art with Artistry**. Explore the various artists and styles of Urban Art. We practice painting various “urban-style” text, develop our own “tags,” and create one large scale painted work.

**Shakopee events for kids**  
**Weekly events:**

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.: **Spotlight Storytime** (all ages). Join local notables for stories and fun for kids and families!

Wednesdays, 2-3 p.m.: **Crafty Science** (ages 6-11). Explore science concepts at this drop-in program with a different take-home project each week!

Thursdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m.: **Arty Smarty** (ages 6-11). Explore and create different art each week.

**More events for kids:**  
Thursdays, June 1 and 22, July 6 and 20, and Aug. 17 and 31 at 10:30 a.m.: **Yoga Storytime with Fran** (all ages). Join us for stories, movement, and easy poses.

Thursday, June 8, 2-3 p.m.: **Magic Tree House Drop-In Party** (ages 6-11). Enjoy activities, snacks, and crafts based on Jack and Annie’s adventures in the always-popular Magic Tree House books.

Saturday, June 10, 2-3 p.m.: **Game Day** (all ages). Choose from our collection of board games or bring one from home.

Monday, June 12, 2-3 p.m.: **4-H Lego WeDo Robotics Drop-In Event** (ages 6-11). Join the 4-H Lego Team for a fun *free* hands-on demo.

Thursday, June 15, 2-3 p.m.: **\*Pioneer Life Mini-Camp** (ages 9-12). Find out what it was like to grow up as a pioneer!

Thursdays, June 15, July 20, Aug. 17, 6-7:30 p.m.: **Waggin’ Tales** (ages 6-11). Drop-in and read to a therapy dog.

Thursday, June 15, 6:30-7 p.m.: Summer Kickoff (all ages). **“The Amazing Cow Boat” presented by Open Eye Puppet Theatre**: Enjoy the story of Charlie and his Cow Boat as they meet pirates, a nest of baby birds, and the moon!

Monday, June 26, 10:30-11:30 a.m.: **STEM Explorers Drop-In Event** (ages 3-8). Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math for the younger crowd!

Mondays, June 26, July 10, 24, 2-3 p.m.: **\*Book Club** (ages 7-9)

Thursday, June 29, 2-2:45 p.m.: **Professor Prchal Science and Engineering Extravaganza** (ages 6-11). Professor Anna is back with science and engineering tricks.

Thursday, July 6, 4-5 p.m.: **GamerBlast Drop-In Event** (ages 7-11). Blast your boredom with this *free* drop-in program featuring games, games, games!

Monday, July 10, 10:30-11:30 a.m.: **Captain Underpants Drop-In Party** (ages 6-11). Fun and games based on the popular books and new movie.

Wednesday, July 13, 4-4:45 p.m.: **\*Mr. Lemoncello’s Escape Room** (ages 8-11). Find hidden clues and solve puzzles to escape from Mr. Lemoncello’s library.

Friday, July 14, 2-3 p.m.: **Dr. Seuss Drop-In Party** (ages 3-8). *Seussian* activities presented by the Scott County Library Teen Advisory Board.

Monday, July 17, 4-5 p.m.: **\*Robot Mouse Coding Mini-Camp** (ages 8-11). Learn the basics of coding, then team up to get your Robot Mouse through mazes!

Thursday, July 20, 4-5:30 p.m.: **\*Pokémon Comics with Artistry** (ages 6-11). Learn to draw and paint your favorite characters.

Saturday, July 22, 10:30-11 a.m.: **Make a Cornhusk Kid** with the Scott County Historical Society (ages 6-11). Make a special cornhusk kid to take home!

Monday, July 24, 10:30 and 11:30 a.m.:

**Magical Mia** (all ages). Don’t blink or you’ll miss one of Mia’s stunning tricks that mystify and entertain! Same shows at 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. *Funded by Friends of the Library*.

Saturday, July 29, 10:30-11:30: **Preschool Drop-In Art Party** (all ages)

Monday, July 31, 2-2:45 p.m.: **StoryClay Teller** (all ages). Help local artist Maureen Carlson create a clay character and story.

Monday, August 21, 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.: **Solar Eclipse Viewing Party and Picnic** (all ages). Bring your lunch, safely watch the eclipse, and enjoy other activities.

**Shakopee events for teens**  
**All events are on Tuesdays, 2-3 p.m. unless otherwise noted.**

*For ages 12 and up. Register to guarantee your spot.*

June 1: **Pie Club**. Mix it up with pies and our newest books!

June 20: **Win the Money Game!** Test your financial smarts in this fun program hosted by Shawna from U of M Extension!

June 27, 2-4 p.m.: **Act Funny Workshop with Artistry**

July 1: **Summer Sign Workshop**. Join local artist Kristin Kilgren of Block. Paper.Scissors. and express yourself by stenciling and painting your own summer-themed 12”x5.5” sign!

July 18: **Haunted Library Escape Room**. “Locked” in a room with only one way out! Search for secret compartments, find hidden clues, and solve puzzles to plot your escape in one hour.

Friday, July 21, 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.: **ACT Test Prep Breakfast**. Take an ACT Pre-Test and Subject Practice Test and access many more *free* resources for getting ready for the real ACT.

July 25: **Feed Me**. Learn (and sample!) three different recipes and even get a *free* journal/pen set to keep great recipes in!

Aug. 1: **Gamercon**. Battle other teens in our *free* single-player Super Smash Bros tournament held on our big screen, match wits with some board games, and more gaming fun!

Aug. 8: **Friendship Bracelets**. Learn to make a friendship bracelet out of embroidery floss with teen volunteer Jacqueline.



**Magical Mia will perform July 24 in Shakopee.**



# Legal SCENE

By Ron Hocevar  
Scott County Attorney



## Civil law is part of the job

When you ask someone what they think the County Attorney does, the response is invariably “prosecute criminals.” Television and movies have done a remarkable job in portraying that important responsibility over the years, but the County Attorney has another critical role outside of the criminal arena that most people don’t even realize. County Attorneys are also responsible for providing general legal advice and representation to the County Board and County departments for all of the civil and business issues that come with running the County.

In addition to me attending County Board meetings, the Scott County Attorney’s Office has a Civil Division where seven attorneys, two paralegals, and two legal assistants handle all of the civil legal issues that involve the County. This work ranges from answering quick legal questions all the way to multi-day trials and everything in between.

One of our main duties in the Civil Division is to represent the County and its departments in District Court civil cases. These cases include situations where we are directed by state statutes to handle particular matters, in addition to situations where we defend the County when it is sued or pursue enforcing its rights through the court system. Many people know that we appear as attorneys pursuing Child in Need of Protection (CHiPs) cases for our Human Services department. Under similar direction, we also represent petitioners in Civil Commitment cases where individuals are being involuntary committed due to mental health and/or chemical dependency issues; we represent public interests in Child Support cases; we represent our Highway Department in Eminent Domain cases; and we represent law enforcement agencies in civil forfeiture cases that arise out of criminal behavior, just to name a few. The County can be sued for many reasons, but common examples include contract issues, quiet title actions, and employment complaints.

Along with District Court cases, we also represent the County in other legal forums -- such as tax appeal cases -- before the Minnesota Tax Court, and representing Human Services in Administrative appeals. If a citizen objects to certain actions or decisions of the County (such as being denied economic assistance, having a daycare license suspended, or a social worker determining they have maltreated a child), that individual has a right to appeal to an authority apart from a District Court process. Those appeals are heard by hearing officers and administrative law judges and our office presents and defends the County’s position throughout the proceedings.

Aside from courtroom-type duties and all of the preparation that goes with them, the largest part of our work is helping County staff navigate legal aspects of their jobs, answering questions and ensuring that proper procedures are followed. For instance, we help the Sheriff’s Office determine who and in what order creditors can redeem foreclosed property, we help our parks department navigate renting out cropland in County parks, and we help departments understand when new legislation impacts them and guide them through needed procedure changes. We work with our Procurement department on purchasing decisions, reviewing bid requirements and contract documents that are used every day throughout the County. We also spend time with departments helping them understand their legal duties surrounding data privacy and health information privacy (HIPAA). When requests for information come to the County, we help departments decide what information is public and can be released and what has to be protected. Finally, we provide training to County departments to help them identify risks and pitfalls so they recognize when to reach out to our office before a problem becomes too big.

All in all, we are the “general counsel” to the County. Just as private corporations need attorneys to assist in business matters, so does the County. The goal of our work in court situations is to ensure the actions and decisions made by county staff are legally appropriate and justified. On the business side, we strive to minimize risk and liability exposure of the County and ensure the continued delivery of services that our citizens depend on.

As a final comment, it is important to note that we can only give legal advice to the County. We are not authorized to give any legal advice or provide legal services to private citizens, so while we watch out for citizens of the county as taxpayers, we can’t provide individual assistance.

## Law Library News

# Crime victims can receive free legal help

Walk-in clinics offered on Mondays, 9 – 11 a.m.

*The Law Library is pleased to announce that the Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services (SMRLS) will have an attorney available every Monday morning for free crime victim legal advice. Attorney Kevin Jonassen has written the following article explaining the Department of Justice grant.*

SMRLS is now offering *free* legal assistance to crime victims in Scott County through a special project. SMRLS is a legal aid organization that provides free, high-quality assistance to low-income people in civil legal matters. For more than 100 years, SMRLS has helped individuals secure and protect their basic needs, maintaining freedom from hunger, homelessness, sickness, and abuse.

SMRLS is offering legal assistance to Scott County crime victims through its participation in the Minnesota Crime Victim Legal Services Project. Along with its project partners, SMRLS is developing a network of resources to provide wraparound legal services to victims of crime. Scott County is fortunate to be part of the project, as there are only two other sites in the state offering services through the Crime Victim Legal Services Project.

The project is set up to provide holistic legal services to crime victims, meaning the lawyer assisting the crime victim is able to help with whatever legal needs the crime victim is experiencing. The crime in question does not need to have been prosecuted -- or even reported -- to the police. Those eligible for services are crime victims residing in Scott County, or crime victims who were the victim of a crime in Scott County but live elsewhere.

Scott County crime victims may be able to obtain help through the project with a variety of legal issues such as restitution and reparations (compensation) for out-of-pocket expenses incurred because of the crime, restraining orders (such as Orders for Protection and Harassment Restraining Orders), landlord-tenant problems, government benefits, identity theft prevention and repair, divorce and custody issues, and any other legal issues related to victimization.

Through the project, SMRLS and its partners are also engaging and working with law enforcement, prosecutors, and

community organizations in an effort to gather information on gaps in services available to crime victims. That information will be used to identify not only the gaps in services, but what improvements can be made at the state and local level to address and close them.

Crime victims can find out if they qualify for help through the project by calling SMRLS and explaining that they are a crime victim in Scott County. SMRLS staff will then do a brief interview to see if the caller is eligible for services. If the caller is eligible, he or she will be transferred to an attorney for assistance. The attorney will then do a “full needs” assessment to gather information on the specific legal issue, and to determine if there are any other legal issues the crime victim may be encountering. Depending on the legal issues discovered, those eligible for assistance may receive full legal representation on their problem, they may be provided legal information and brief advice on their issue, or they may be referred to another service provider better adapted to the specific problem.

SMRLS has also worked with the Scott County Law Library to set up office hours at the Scott County Government Center. Most Monday mornings, crime victims with questions about civil legal issues can go to room 302 in the Justice Center (Courthouse) and speak with a SMRLS attorney. Again, there is no cost for this service and making an appointment in advance is not necessary.

The Crime Victim Legal Services Project is truly unique. It provides crime victims in Scott County the opportunity to get help with the various legal issues they may be facing at no cost to them. For more information, and to inquire about services under the project, call SMRLS at (651) 222-4731 or 1-888-575-2954, Monday through Friday, 9 to 11:45 a.m. or 1 to 3:00 p.m. You can also visit the SMRLS project attorney in room 302 of the Scott County Justice Center on Mondays from 9 to 11 a.m.

*This product was supported by grant 2012- VF-GX-K420, awarded by the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this product are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.*

# Conserving water does make a difference

We all know we are supposed to conserve water, but here in Minnesota with water all around, do these small everyday decisions make any difference? Is it worth your time to change your habits to conserve water? In a word, *yes!*

Conserving water means conserving energy and resources. If you are connected to a city’s water system, any water that runs down the drain goes to the wastewater treatment facility. All the water entering the facility needs to be treated, which takes both money and energy. Any water that you conserve is water that you do not have to pay for. It is much more efficient to save water by shutting off the tap when not using it than to let it flow down the drain to the wastewater treatment facility, then have it pumped back to you. Plus, when hot water is wasted, you not only pay for the water but also for the energy to heat it, only to have it flow down the drain.

Here are some ideas for saving water around your home:



Don’t run faucets unnecessarily.

- Keep drinking water in your refrigerator rather than running the faucet until water gets cold.
- Shut off the tap when brushing your teeth and when soaping up in the shower.
- Install a low-flow showerhead that uses less than two gallons a minute of water.
- Wash a full load in the clothes washer and dishwasher to get the most for your washing.
- Compost your vegetable and fruit scraps rather than using the sink garbage disposal.
- Wash fruits and vegetables in a bowl of water rather than running the tap.
- Fix any leaky faucets or toilets. You can save over 100 gallons of water per week!

Contact the Scott Soil and Water Conservation District in Jordan for more information at (952) 492-5425. Remember: Everything we do on lawns, driveways, and yards eventually ends up in our rivers, lakes and wetlands. Everyday decisions do matter!



## CAP Corner

# Summer food distributions increase, include produce

By Joseph Vaughan

CAP Agency CEO/President

With summer's arrival, CAP Agency has once again sprung into action to meet the increased food needs of families. With school out, families' budgets are stretched even further to provide meals to their children. This summer, CAP Agency is partnering with Second Harvest Heartland (SHH) to enhance our **food distributions**. From July to October, CAP's food shelf will be providing food distributions on select Saturday mornings (July 15 and 29, Aug. 5 and 19, Sept. 16, and Oct. 7). These distributions are available to all CAP Food Shelf clients and will include an increased amount of fresh produce from SHH and CAP's Backstretch Community Garden. Donations of fresh produce are always welcome at our food shelf, so feel free to bring in any extras from home gardens as well! If you would like more information on renting a plot with the Backstretch Community Garden, contact Lindsay at [lajala@co.scott.mn.us](mailto:lajala@co.scott.mn.us).



**Anyone with extra garden produce is encouraged to donate it for the Summer CAP Food Shelf distributions.**

### Pet Food at Food Shelf

Another exciting new partnership is the one between CAP's Food Shelf and the Scott-Carver Humane Society. CAP clients are now able to receive **pet food** from the Food Shelf while also being connected with **veterinary care** assistance for their pets. This partner-



**Through a new partnership with the Scott-Carver Humane Society, CAP Food Shelf clients can receive free food for their pets.**

ship aims to make it possible for those in need to continue to care for their pets and reduce the number of animals surrendered to shelters.

### Head Start enrollment underway

**Head Start** enrollment for the 2017-2018 school year is underway! Head Start promotes the school readiness of young children from income eligible families. Head Start is designed to work with the whole family and encourages parents as their child's first and most important teacher. Head Start serves families with children age three to five. In addition to providing a *free*, quality preschool experience, the program offers health, nutrition, and social services. You can download an enrollment application at [www.capagency.org](http://www.capagency.org) or stop in at either of our offices. The Shakopee office is located at 712 Canterbury Road South, Shakopee. The Rosemount office is located at 2496 145<sup>th</sup> Street West, Rosemount.

Partnerships with organizations like Second Harvest Heartland and the Scott-Carver Humane Society are just one part of what it takes to support families in need in our community. The support of community members like you is absolutely vital to the services we provide. For information on how you can donate or volunteer, visit [www.capagency.org](http://www.capagency.org).

# New uses found for unwanted paint products

The Scott County Household Hazardous Waste facility (HHW) is a phenomenal resource in regards to disposal of unwanted paint and chemicals. For many residents, it is the last place they see (or even want to think about) their leftover paint and household wastes. However, a common question for many, is what really happens to all of this stuff once it gets dropped off?

There is no one easy answer, as the waste streams of each product and chemical are cast out like a spiderweb across the region -- and even the country. Perhaps the best way to answer this is to look at it through the eyes of the product itself. The most commonly dropped off item, and most sought after in the ReUSE room, is latex and oil-based paint. The paint industry has changed significantly in the last couple of years with advancements in technology and the introduction of a new nationwide paint care program. This program has kick-started an initiative to recycle and reuse more paint than ever before. Where people were previously instructed to dry out old latex paint and place it in the trash, it is now encouraged to take used paint to a paint care drop-off site so it can be collected for reuse, recycling, and energy recovery. With paint retailers volunteering to take



**Paint products brought to the Household Hazardous Waste Facility are reused and recycled.**

paint back for recycling, it allows members of the public much more convenient disposal options.

The recycling process begins when the paint gets dropped off at the HHW facility. While there, the HHW staff separates the paint by container size and type (latex/oil-based). It is then determined if the paint and the container is in good enough shape to be placed on the ReUSE room shelves. Before any of the paint reaches the shelves of the ReUSE room, they have each been checked and stirred to determine an accurate color. Often, the paint may be in good enough shape for reuse, but the container leaks or won't seal completely.

All paint that doesn't get placed in

## Safety SCENE

By Luke Hennen  
Scott County Sheriff



## Help fight drug abuse in our community

Every city in Scott County takes part in "Take It to the Box," which is a joint effort with all Scott County law enforcement agencies, the County Attorney's Office, and Choose Not to Use. The program allows citizens to anonymously dispose of their unneeded medication, prescription medication, illegal drugs, and drug paraphernalia in a safe, secure location. The disposed medications are then safely discarded by trained professionals. Take It to the Box is one of the most important programs in our community.

One of the reasons the Take It to the Box program is important is due to the impact a successful prescription disposal program can have on reducing the misuse of drugs. Over the last 15 years, prescription medications that have not been properly disposed of have led to an increase of misuse, an increase in emergency room visits, overdose deaths associated with prescription drugs, and more treatment admissions for prescription drug addiction. According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), unintentional overdose deaths involving opioid pain relievers have more than *quadrupled* since 1999 -- and now outnumber deaths involving heroin and cocaine.

The misuse of prescription medications can also lead to the abuse of other drugs. In fact, almost 70 percent of people who reported becoming addicted to street drugs (like heroin) confessed their drug problem began with the abuse of prescription drugs at the home of a friend or relative. You may not see the harm in having old medications in your medicine cabinet, but some may see those unused medications as an opportunity.

Another reason to dispose of your medications through the Take It to the Box program is that the improper disposal of these medications can have a negative impact on our environment. Medications that have been disposed incorrectly can and does get into groundwater or soil and can be absorbed by vegetation. The contaminated water is harmful to aquatic life, and can also end up in our drinking water. According to the EPA, if traces of prescription medication end up in our drinking water, it can have several impacts -- including the compromise of the immune systems of fetuses, children, and pregnant women.

There is no cost to use Take It to the Box, and there are disposal locations in every city in Scott County. The location of the Take It to the Box medication disposal boxes are:

- **Belle Plaine:** Main entrance of the Police Department, 420 East Main Street. Box is available Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- **Elko New Market:** Elko New Market City Hall, 601 Main Street (Open 24/7)
- **Jordan:** Front Lobby of City Hall, 210 East First Street. Box is available Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **New Prague:** Vestibule of City Hall/Police Department on south side, 118 Central Ave North (Open 24/7)
- **Prior Lake:** Front vestibule of the Prior Lake Police Department, 4649 Dakota Avenue SE (Open 24/7)
- **Savage:** Front vestibule of the Savage Police Department, 6000 McColl Drive (Open 24/7)
- **Shakopee:** Scott County Sheriff's Office Main Lobby, 301 Fuller Street, corner of 4<sup>th</sup> and Fuller (Open 24/7)

There are several reasons why you should participate in the Take It to the Box program if you have unwanted or expired medications. Disposing of these medications properly helps prevent misuse and abuse, and is environmentally safe. For more information on the Take It to the Box program, visit <http://choosenottouse.org/Box.html> or contact Kathy at (952) 239-9885.

Follow the Scott County Sheriff's Office on Facebook and Twitter  
[@scottcosheriffoffice](https://www.facebook.com/scottcosheriffoffice)

the ReUSE room gets shipped to different places based on its type. Latex paint accumulated in the paint care program gets shipped to a company called Amazon paints, located in Fridley (for more information, visit [www.amazonpaint.com](http://www.amazonpaint.com)). From there, the paint gets sorted by color, filtered, and mixed or blended together (sometimes with other ingredients) to make recycled-content paint in 15 different colors. This recycled paint can be purchased at their retail store in Fridley. Latex paint that is unsuitable for re-blending can often be used in other industries. Some unusable latex paint gets solidified and ground for use in cement production. Others become an additive in other products, or dried and made into landscaping material. Very little latex paint is landfilled, and is only done when other options are not

feasible.

Oil-based paint is typically sent to a cement kiln (a plant that manufactures cement) for energy recovery. Because cement kilns require a lot of fuel, using oil-based paint as a fuel saves a significant amount of energy. The result is less virgin fuel needed to operate the kiln. Using oil-based paint as a fuel is the most environmentally responsible use available for unwanted oil-based paint.

As technology advances and the demand for recycled material continues to grow at an incredible rate, the ability to create new products out of recycled material could be the key to a brighter and more sustainable future. For more information, visit [www.paintcare.org](http://www.paintcare.org) and visit the Scott County's website at [www.scottcountymn.gov](http://www.scottcountymn.gov).





# SCALE

Scott County Association For Leadership And Efficiency

You've probably heard of it, and maybe even read about it already, but we're going to try and make the Scott County Association for Leadership and Efficiency (a.k.a., SCALE) a little more relevant to you and your neighbors by bringing you SCALE "news you can use" – updates on road projects, local events, community developments and programs, and other things you might want to know – such as how your tax dollars are being put to use.

## From Belle Plaine:

### A greener Belle Plaine

The City of Belle Plaine has a number of natural assets that make it a desirable place to live. For many years, City leaders have been aware of the importance of being environmentally conscious. In 2016, the Belle Plaine City Council passed a resolution to become a GreenStep City. In doing so, Belle Plaine took its first step in a series of five, and recently achieved Step Two by completing several action steps.

GreenStep Cities is a free, voluntary continuous improvement program managed by a public-private partnership hosted by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. The program is centered around 29 best practices with a focus on cost savings and energy use reduction along with community participation. At this time, 112 Minnesota cities are participating in the program including Belle Plaine and Jordan in Scott County.

Belle Plaine has completed six of the 29 best practices, some of which were accomplished prior to the City enrolling in the program, while others are recent initiatives. Two best practices previously achieved include providing adequate parks and trails for residents and participating in the "Tree City USA" program. Belle Plaine has been designated as a "Tree City USA" City for 18 years, and annually celebrates Arbor Day. The City has designated approximately 80 acres of land for parks and recreation within the City, equaling 12 acres of land per 1,000 residents.

Recent initiatives that meet the best practice standards are changes to City Code allowing solar energy systems within City limits and an energy savings contract. The City changed Code in June 2016 to allow solar energy systems to be used for residential and commercial applications.

The City has also entered into an energy savings contract with a vendor to install new, energy-efficient LED lighting in a majority of the City's facilities. The contractor will be reimbursed for these improvements only if the City sees a reduction in electricity usage. This is a cost-effective way for the city to reduce energy use and save tax dollars.

Visit [www.MnGreenStep.org](http://www.MnGreenStep.org) to learn more about this program, and see what the City of Belle Plaine and other cities have accomplished.

## From Prior Lake:

### Duluth Avenue and Highway 13 project moved to 2019

The Prior Lake City Council recently adopted a resolution amending the Capital Improvement Plan to shift the Duluth Ave. and Highway 13 project from the year 2020 to 2019. The intersection was originally scheduled for construction in 2015; in that same year, the project was delayed a second time by the City Council due to tax levy pressures and concerns from area businesses. In 2015, the intersection was given a rating of "C" on a scale of A-F, but is projected to drop to an F by 2019.

In 2019, the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) is planning a full reclamation project on Highway 13 from County Road 21 to Highway 282 in Jordan. Considering the timing, city staff recommended moving the project to 2019 to coincide with the MnDOT project.

MnDOT has also suggested the Duluth and Highway 13 project may be a good candidate for MnDOT Cooperative Agreement funding. City Council has directed staff to apply for the funding. This funding, estimated at \$350,000, would help offset City tax levy if it is approved.

It is encouraging to see MnDOT investing in Prior Lake, however, travel along Highway 13 during the 2018-2019 construction seasons will be a challenge. In 2018, the Highway 42 and Highway 13 intersection will be under construction, and MnDOT will be completing a major overlay of Highway 13 from County Road 21 to Highway 101. In 2019, the County Road 21 and Highway

13 project will be under construction at the same time as the reclamation on Highway 13 from County Road 21 to Highway 282 is occurring.

### Prior Lake drinking water report

The City of Prior Lake recently issued the results of monitoring done on its drinking water for the period from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2016 to advance consumers' understanding of drinking water and heighten awareness of the need to protect precious water resources. Call (952) 447-9894 with questions about the City's drinking water or for public participation opportunities that may affect the quality of the water. Visit [cityofpriorlake.com/documents/drinking2016.pdf](http://cityofpriorlake.com/documents/drinking2016.pdf) to view the consumer confidence report.



Over 80 volunteers filled assisted with the Prior Lake-Spring Lake's Clean Water Clean-up on April 23. They filled seven dump trucks with debris.

## From the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District:

### Many volunteers assist with Clean Water Clean-Up

What a difference a day makes! Neighbors of Crystal Lake in Prior Lake marveled at how much better the park looked after the City's and the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District's Clean Water Clean-up on Sunday, April 23.

Over 80 kids, adults, Girl and Boy Scouts, St. Michael's Church volunteers, and students from Aspen Academy cleaned up leaves and organic debris to protect the lake's water quality. In addition, several adults took on the challenge of using "buckthorn pullers" to pull out invasive buckthorn plants by their roots.

The results are in—volunteers filled *seven dump trucks* with buckthorn and other woody debris and raked over *1780 pounds* of leaves! Hard to believe they did all this in just a couple of hours!

Leaves and other organic matter are carried by storm-water into storm drains and end up in lakes and streams. Once in the waterbodies, they breakdown and release phosphorus, which feeds algae. Algae growth is a serious threat to water quality, aquatic life, property values and water recreation.

Local businesses generously provided door prizes and lunch was served. The District and the City plan on doing another clean-up in the fall. Stay tuned by clicking on the link on the District's website: <http://www.plslwd.org> or on the City's website: <http://www.cityofpriorlake.com> or by calling the District at (952) 447-4166.

## From Savage:

### 2017 Summer Music in the Park

Nothing says summer like an outdoor concert! Savage Recreation presents the Music in the Park series Wednesday evenings during the summer from 7 - 8 p.m. Performances are for audiences of all ages, and at times feature acts specifically aimed at children. Music in the Park performances are held on the outdoor patio at the McColl Pond Environmental Learning Center in Community Park. Limited seating is available, lawn chairs are encouraged.

**June 14:** The Todd Menton Duo (Celtic Folk)

**June 21\*:** The Toonies Family Fun Show (Kids/Family)

**June 28:** The Riddle Brothers (American Folk)

**July 12:** Anthony Ihrig & Eric Christopher (Bluegrass)

**July 19\*:** The Teddy Bear Band (Kids/Family)

**July 26:** Hanson & Hoyt Band (Easy Listening)

**Aug. 2:** Stomp N Dixie (Dixie Ragtime)

**Aug. 9:** The Squires (Polka)

**Aug. 16:** Michael Monroe (American Folk)

# News you can use...



The Savage Music in the Park Series is held on the patio at the McColl Pond ELC in Community Park.

**Aug. 23:** The Blue Drifters (Bluegrass)

\*Ice Blossoms ice cream truck will be on onsite June 21 and July 19

## Dan Patch Days: A winning celebration set for June 22-25

Dan Patch Days provides a great opportunity to experience all the fun, festivities, and food of a family vacation this summer – all in our own backyard! Dan Patch Days, June 22-25, is a family-focused event that offers something for everyone. Throughout the weekend, an estimated 10,000 people will come to Community Park in Savage to enjoy tasty food, fantastic entertainment, spectacular fireworks, kids' activities, and much more! From inflatables to games, to a parade and live music, 2017's Dan Patch Days is much more than a few days of horsing around.

Each year, Dan Patch Days celebrates the most famous resident of the city of Savage: A horse named Dan Patch. Dan Patch has been called The King of the Pacers, The World's Champion Harness Horse, The Great Dan Patch, and the greatest harness horse in the history of the two-wheel sulky. And the only horse in racing history to break the two-minute mile barrier 35 times!

Dan Patch Days is all about bringing our community together. Our mission is to inspire, enlighten, and delight all our visitors while we use the proceeds to maintain and enhance community organizations. Over the past 15 years, Dan Patch Days has given back over \$160,000 to community organizations and projects. By being a sponsor, a volunteer, or by attending the event itself, you help us accomplish good things for our community and the organizations within it, and we would like to say thank you – and we hope to see you this year at Dan Patch Days!

For a complete schedule of events, go to [danpatchdays.org](http://danpatchdays.org) or call the Savage Chamber of Commerce at (952) 894-8876.

## From Shakopee:

### Ridge Creek, Windermere housing developments coming

The Shakopee City Council recently approved plans for two residential developments to bring 300 new homes to Shakopee. D.R. Horton plans to build 197 townhomes and single-family homes on 77 acres west of Marystown Road and south of Highway 169. The Windermere development will include multiple home styles including three-story townhomes, single-family homes and raised ranch homes. The houses are anticipated to range in price from \$225,000 for a townhome to \$325,000 and up for single family homes.

Lennar Homes plans to build 104 single-family homes on 79 acres north of Scott County Highway 16 between Pike Lake Road and the Riverside Bluffs development. The development consists of approximately 38 acres of open space and wetland areas. The city is in discussions with the Prior Lake – Spring Lake Watershed District to improve the outlet channel and wetland areas and develop trails and boardwalks that connect to area trails and parks.

The Ridge Creek development features a variety of house plans. The family-focused homes would start in the mid-to-upper \$300,000 range. In addition, Lennar Homes is considering offering NextGen homes, which provide an additional suite for a family member, such as an elderly parent.

SCALE News continued on next page



# Practical ways to connect children to nature

More and more parents, health care providers, and educators -- in both formal and informal settings -- are recognizing the value of connecting children to nature. It’s not only good for their physical and mental health, it also contributes to their academic success. It’s also great for the planet: Children with meaningful, frequent nature-based experiences develop attachments to the earth that lead to a desire to take care of the environment.

The question is: How can we best provide these nature-based experiences? The answer depends on the age of the child and the benefits you’re seeking.

For younger children, there are a number of resources. *Early Childhood Activities for a Greener Earth* and *Connecting Animals and Children in Early Childhood* (Selly) and Wilson’s *Nature and Young Children* are just a few examples of engaging popular books offering strategies for parents and educators of young children. Another, *Vitamin N*, was written by Richard Louv, the author of *Last Child in the Woods*, which 10 years ago launched a vibrant movement to reconnect children to nature. Providing 500 activities for children of all ages and adults, as well as essays and resources, *Vitamin N* is one of the most comprehensive resources for any age.

To support connecting older children to nature, here are some suggestions for the young teen to young adult, inspired by *Vitamin N*. These ideas are accompanied by information about ways that these activities align with some of the developmental “work” children are



**These youngsters connected to the outdoors last summer through a camp offered by Three Rivers Park District at Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park. There’s many opportunities for outdoor activities in parks throughout Scott County.**

tackling during this stage of development. Throughout adolescence, youth are changing rapidly in the physical, cognitive, emotional, and social realms.

Some important developmental tasks during this stage include:

- Accepting and understanding one’s body and keeping it healthy
- Engaging in more complex and abstract thought
- Becoming more self-sufficient
- Exploring academic and vocational interests
- Clarifying values to guide behavior, and becoming socially responsible
- Strengthening sense of identity
- Developing stable and productive

peer relationships

- Some specific activities for teens, and the developmental benefits they afford:

- Design, build, and tend to a vegetable garden: This fosters creativity and problem solving, physical activity, stress reduction, and offers a source of nutrition.
- Embark on a wilderness adventure: A multi-day to multi-week canoeing or backpacking trip can develop outdoor skills, form bonds with a peers, offer leadership roles, create a deep connection to nature, restore attention and emotional function, and test physical skills

and emotional resilience.

- Build a treehouse or fort: This requires applying design and engineering thinking and skills, negotiating roles, and collaborating with a small group.
- River clean-up: Youth learn about the impact of human activity on a river and its plant and wildlife and develop a sense of responsibility for protecting the environment while working in a small or large group.

Broadly speaking, nature-based activities for the teen should provide some combination of the following: social interaction, exploration, appropriate risk-taking, opportunities for complex thinking and problem-solving, physical activity and challenge, emotional and spiritual connection to the natural world, and the opportunity to practice environmental stewardship. Parents, educators, and youth workers can offer these and many other nature-based learning and recreational activities that facilitate youth development. What activities might you try to engage teens with nature?

For more information on how to connect your child with nature in Scott County, contact Sara Wagner, 4-H Program Coordinator at [dunc0088@umn.edu](mailto:dunc0088@umn.edu) or (952) 492-5388.

Source: Cathy Jordan, University of Minnesota associate professor Division of General Pediatrics and Adolescent Health

## Master Gardeners ready to provide free advice, answer questions

Have any gardening or plant questions? Send your local University of Minnesota Extension Master Gardeners an email! Contact the Carver-Scott Extension Master Gardeners at [gardenquestions@carverscottmastergardeners.org](mailto:gardenquestions@carverscottmastergardeners.org)

We are a collective of trained volunteers accredited by the University of Minnesota Extension who provide *free*, unbiased horticultural and environmental best practices. Our goal is to enhance local quality of life through informed decision-making. Last year, our team of 100 master gardeners volunteered 4,000 hours in Carver and Scott Counties. Visit us at [www.carverscottmastergardeners.org](http://www.carverscottmastergardeners.org).



## New 4-H Club formed in Belle Plaine

Scott County 4-H is excited to announce its new Belle Plaine 4-H club is up and running. If you have questions or would like more information, contact the Scott County Extension office at (925) 492-5410.

4-H values the importance of youth voices in promoting positive youth development and experience. Research has shown that positive interactions with non-familial adults may be particularly beneficial in helping young people to acquire skills they need to thrive



in adulthood. As a community, it is our responsibility to help promote healthy, inclusive environments for our youth to

build and cultivate their voices through positive learning and community experiences!

## SCALE News

From previous page

### Music series scheduled

Music and family entertainment return to the riverfront this summer at Shakopee’s annual Huber Park Performance & Events Series. Sponsored by the Parks & Recreation Department, the series features free family fun Thursdays and select Saturdays through August. Entertainment includes concerts, comedy shows, magicians, movies in the park, and more. All events take place at Huber Park, 150 Fillmore St. N. Find a calendar of events at [www.ShakopeeMN.gov/calendar](http://www.ShakopeeMN.gov/calendar).

A new five-week summer concert series called Rhythm on the Rails will be held on Lewis Street in downtown Shakopee on Wednesday nights from 6 to 10 p.m., July 19 through Aug. 16. Each event will feature live music, family activities, food and drink vendors, and local artists. Bring your own lawn chair. Sponsored by area businesses.

### Fun in the sun at Aquatic Park

Get ready to dive into Shakopee’s unique sand-bottomed pool -- SandVenture Aquatic Park! The beachfront pool, water slides, diving board, and concessions are open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily with special events throughout the summer. The pool also hosts swimming lessons, group rentals, and more. Purchase an individual or family membership and visit the park as often as you want. Learn more at [www.ShakopeeMN.gov/sandventure](http://www.ShakopeeMN.gov/sandventure).

### Big Fun Day set for June 17

Kick off summer in a big way with fun activities from 5 to 8 p.m. Saturday, June 17 at Huber Park, 150 Fillmore St. N. This free event includes splash pad, giant slip-n-

slide, water relays and games, food carts, balloon art, and bounce houses. The Splatter Sisters will perform at 6:30 p.m., followed by a Movie in the Park at 8:30 p.m. For more information, visit [www.ShakopeeMN.gov](http://www.ShakopeeMN.gov).

### From the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community:

#### Updated Golf Course

The Meadows at Mystic Lake has all you need for a relaxing afternoon on the golf course. Our award-winning public golf course offers a unique and scenic golf experience, while challenging you to do your best. Unveiling a brand-new look with updated bunkers, white sand, a new design and more, The Meadows at Mystic Lake is ready to host you. Visit [golftothemeadows.com](http://golftothemeadows.com).

### Wacipi 2017 set for Aug. 18-20

Explore the sights and sounds of what the SMSC is all about — family, culture, and tradition — at the 2017 Wacipi. From Aug. 18-20, the Community will honor its heritage and ancestors over three days of celebration, welcoming dancers, spectators, and vendors from all over. Wacipi means “they all dance” in the Dakota language. It was originally a gathering time held at the end of a season to celebrate a good hunt or recognize a positive event. Today, the SMSC’s Wacipi is a contest Pow Wow, where dancers compete in categories and age groups, representing their tribe. It’s a celebratory time of dancing, singing, and visiting.

Please join us for this annual event at 3212 Dakotah



**The 2017 Wacipi will be held Aug. 18-20.**

Parkway in Shakopee, near Mystic Lake Casino. Learn about the Native American heritage, sample Native foods, and browse through the handmade crafts. Visit [smscwacipi.org](http://smscwacipi.org) for more information.

### Customer Appreciation Day

Score some great deals at the Shakopee Dakota Convenience Stores’ Customer Appreciation Day on June 10 (located at the store at 14160 Wilds Path NW in Prior Lake). We’ll have in-store specials, a gas discount, free samples, and giveaways all day long. Fuel up or grab a car wash while you’re there, too. Receive a 15-cent discount on gas from 11 a.m.- 1 p.m. or discounts on all the car wash packages. We’ll even have fun games for the kids — Soccer Speed Kick, Pop-A-Shot, and Bulls Eye — from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.



## EmergenSCENE

By Captain Scott Haas  
Emergency Management  
and Communications Director



### Prepare those with special needs for an emergency

When we discuss how a person should prepare for an emergency or disaster situation, we are often directing our message towards the average citizen. However, we realize there are a lot of individuals who have circumstances in their lives that can sometimes pose additional challenges, especially in an rapidly changing event.

Disasters can impact everyone, but the likelihood of recovering from a disaster quickly can depend on the planning and preparation you are doing right now. Every individual's abilities are unique, and because of this it is vital that when individuals plan they take their own particular circumstances into account. Regardless of who you are, there are steps you can take to prepare for any emergency -- including fires, floods, tornadoes, power outages, and more. By evaluating your own situation and making an emergency plan that incorporates your specific needs, you and your loved ones can be better prepared.

There are several measures individuals can take in order to prepare in advance. Preparing makes sense for everyone, but there is an added emphasis when you have special concerns and needs during the planning process. At its core, preparedness planning is essentially the same for everyone, but each of us needs to keep our own circumstances in mind.

One of the first steps anyone should take is to **make an emergency kit** of supplies that may come in useful during a prolonged emergency. The recommended items for an emergency kit include a flashlight, water, non-perishable food, and a first aid kit. These basic items are recommended for everyone, but each individual needs to consider additional items that help meet your specific needs and could help sustain you and your loved ones for at least three days. In some disasters, it's possible you will not have access to a medical facility or even a drugstore for a period of time, which makes it crucial that you and your family think about what kinds of resources you use on a daily basis and what could occur if those resources are limited or not available. If you have to, make more than one kit, with one specifically dedicated to providing for the disabled or functional needs person in your life. Some items to consider for your kit include:

#### Medications and medical supplies

- If you take daily medications, make sure you have enough of that medication in your kit to supply you for a few days.
- Keep a copy of your prescription(s) in your emergency kit.
- If you receive routine treatments or services, talk to your service provider about their emergency plans. Work with them to identify back-up service providers in your area.
- If you use medical equipment in your home that requires electricity to operate, talk to your health care provider about what you can do to prepare for its use during a power outage.

Beyond all of these things, there may be other things specific to your personal needs that you should have on hand. Examples would be an extra pair of glasses or hearing aids, hearing aid batteries, wheelchair batteries, and oxygen. If you rely on medical equipment of any type, try to have a plan that allows yourself continual access to these things. If you have a service animal, be sure to include food, water, a collar with ID tag, and other emergency pet supplies.

Regardless of who you are and what you may need to maintain yourself, take a little time to ask yourself: "What if?" What if tomorrow we lost power for a week or more? What if I couldn't see my personal doctor for another two to three weeks? What if we had to live in an emergency shelter for a week? If you are not prepared for situations like this, now is the time to prepare. Take the time to ensure your kit is made and your personal needs will be met during a disaster.

## Learners take control online

Anyone who has been around teenagers in the last five years knows that they are *constantly* online. In fact, a whopping *91 percent* of teens use smart phones daily; these devices are practically extensions of their bodies. How should people who work with youth respond? Your first impulse might be to ask youth to put their devices away to avoid distraction, but what if you harnessed them as learning tools?

In the past 10 years, those of us who design online learning environments have come to realize that online learning shouldn't stand apart from face-to-face youth programming, nor must it be a solitary activity. It can be integrated with the myriad learning resources that youth have -- mentors, books, interest groups, videos, and educational games, to name a few.

The Minnesota 4-H online learning team is developing online adventures -- learning modules in which youth ages

10 to 14, in small groups led by an expert mentor, study subjects that interest them. They build things, observe, report, and resolve to tackle issues in their communities.

We take a connected learning approach: For example, in the "Pollinator Superheroes" adventure, we asked participants to identify pollinators in their garden, upload photos of what they found, and discuss their findings. They played a matching game about pollinator body parts and flowers, and took a behind-the-scenes tour of a university entomology lab. We asked them to name ways they will help pollinators in their local areas.

If you would like to learn more about 4-H online learning opportunities, please contact Sara Wagner at (952) 492-5388 or at [dunc0088@umn.edu](mailto:dunc0088@umn.edu).

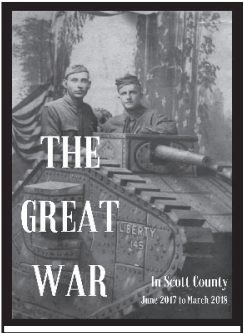
Source: Ann Nordby, University of Minnesota Youth Development

## Mini-camps, workshops, new Great War exhibit fill SCHS summer schedule

**Wish You Were Here: Tourism in Scott County:** Scott County has been a vacation destination for over a century! This exhibit explores the many tourist spots that have attracted visitors over the years, including the resorts at Prior Lake, Mudbaden Sulphur Springs, the Renaissance Festival, Canterbury Park, Mystic Lake, Valleyfair, Elko Speedway, and more! See amazing photos and artifacts, and share your favorite memories of these fun places! Exhibit open until August 2018.

#### The Great War in Scott County:

This exhibit marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of America's entry into World War I. Explore the war's impact on Scott County through the stories of those who served abroad and those who aided the effort from home. Join us on Thursday, June 22 at 7 p.m. for the exhibit opening celebration! Guest presenter Iric Nathanson will discuss his book *World War I in Minnesota*. Light refreshments will be served. Free with museum admission (\$4 per adult, \$2 per student, free for SCHS members).



**Relax in the Museum Garden,** every Friday, June – August, 12 noon - 1 p.m. Take a break and enjoy some lovely local green space! Every Friday this summer, the SCHS will offer casual drop-in relaxation activities in the Museum Garden from 12 noon-1 p.m. *Free!*



**Check out the Historical Society's Research Library during an Open House planned for June 10.**

**Research Library Open House,** Saturday, June 10, 10 a.m. - 12 noon. Are you interested in old maps of Scott County? Want to find a newspaper article from 50 years ago? Or maybe you want to start digging into your family history? The SCHS Research Library is the place for you! Stop by our open house to discover the many resources available in the library, learn how to use our microfilm machines, and more! *Free!*

**Make a Corn Husk Kid Workshops,** June 15, 20, and 27; July 13, 18, and 22; August 2 (see *Scott County Library website for times and locations*). This traditional Native American toy has been around for centuries! Learn all about it during this program, and make a special corn husk kid of your own to take home! *Presented in partnership with the Scott County Library System and funded by the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage (Legacy) Amendment.* Free! Best for ages 6-11.

**Pioneer Life Mini-Camps,** June 15, 20, 21, and 27; July 13 and 18; August 1 (see *Scott County Library website for times and locations*). Ever wondered what it was like to grow up



**SCHS mini-camps will provide entertaining and educational activities for youth this summer.**

in the pioneer era? Now's your chance to find out! During this hour-long "mini-camp," you will get to try your hand at a variety of activities familiar to pioneer kids, including churning butter; practicing penmanship on a slate board; playing jacks, cat's cradle, and other traditional games; and making a corn husk kid to take home! *Best for ages 9-12. Free,* but space is limited, and registration is required -- please register online through the Scott County Library System website or by calling the library. *Presented in partnership with the Scott County Library System and funded by the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage (Legacy) Amendment.*

**Look for the Scott County Historical Society this summer at city festivals, and visit us at the Scott County Fair on July 27 from 2 – 4 p.m.!** (We'll be making whirligigs in the Creative Arts Building!)

The Scott County Historical will be closed on Tuesday, July 4 for Independence Day.



**Breweries have always been popular in Scott County. Join the Brewery Bus Tour on Aug. 19.**

**Save the date!** Scott County Brewery Bus Tour, Aug. 19, 2017. Watch for more details!

**All Things Minnesota Book Club** -- meets at 3 p.m., the third Thursday of each month at SCHS.



Check us out on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/SCHSHistory> and follow us on Twitter @ScottCountyHist. Unless otherwise noted, events take place at SCHS. Fees may be charged for some events. Call (952) 445-0378, email [info@scottcountyhistory.org](mailto:info@scottcountyhistory.org), or visit [www.scottcountyhistory.org](http://www.scottcountyhistory.org) for more information.



**The Scott County Historical Society Museum is located at 235 Fuller St. S., Shakopee.**



Historical SCENE

# LeRoy Lebens: A man of many talents

By Tyler Kinsella  
SCHS Collections Assistant

Depending on who you are, you could know LeRoy Lebens for any number of his many talents. Some may remember him as the man who would play drums almost nightly with his swing band, the LeRoy Lebens Trio, while happy couples danced the night away. Others may remember him being touted in local press as an ace marksman, capable of shooting cans out of the air without the benefit of aiming with sights from his revolver. However, many more may remember him as the man who photographed their wedding, first communion, graduation, or just the guy capturing shots of daily life in Scott County and its businesses, parades, and natural beauty. It is this work with photography that has captured our attention here at Scott County Historical Society. We are currently working through inventorying thousands of his pictures into our collection, thanks to a generous grant from the Minnesota Historical Society. In this short piece, we're pleased to share some of the interesting things we have learned about this man of many talents.

LeRoy was born on September 25, 1917 in Shakopee, and spent his formative years at 132 Fuller Ave, only a block from where the Scott County Historical Society stands today. Despite having a formal education that didn't go past the 7th grade, LeRoy was a success in everything he focused his efforts towards.<sup>1</sup> Perhaps the first passion in life where he excelled was hunting and marksmanship. According to an article



LeRoy Lebens was a marksman with impressive skills that were recognized nationally.

published by the *Minneapolis Tribune* in 1966, LeRoy was first given lessons in shooting from his grandfather as a young child, who taught him to shoot instinctively, with both eyes open and "ignoring the sights on the weapon." Through years of almost daily practice, mostly on the outskirts of town, LeRoy became proficient enough to hit flying targets with a piece of cardboard covering the sights of his pistol.<sup>2</sup> One of his most impressive marksmanship achievements was throwing five cans into the air with his left hand, drawing his .22 caliber revolver with his right hand, and putting a hole into each can before they hit the ground. This was confirmed by nine individuals who signed an affidavit after witnessing it and gained him national attention from *Guns and Ammo* magazine, comparing his speed and precision to world record shooters of the day.<sup>3</sup>

Another passion for which LeRoy was well-known was his music. He first started to play drums at the age of 12, and by the age of 17 was in his first band, the Red Hats, who mostly played in local beer joints. Not long after, LeRoy would be part of quite a few big-name road bands, playing supper clubs and dance halls throughout the country. He played with the bands of Lawrence Welk, Guy Lombardo, Ace Brigode,



LeRoy Lebens played drums with Lawrence Welk and Guy Lombardo. He then established the LeRoy Lebens Trio and played swing music up to six nights a week at places like the Shakopee House and the St. Paul House.

and Skippy Anderson, to name a few.<sup>4</sup> However, after turning down an offer to move out to California to play full-time with Lawrence Welk, LeRoy formed his own group, the LeRoy Lebens Trio, in 1952 and became a regular feature at local establishments like the Shakopee House and St. Paul House, where he would play up to six nights a week. He continued playing into the 1980s, keeping the swing era alive.<sup>5 6</sup>

It was while he was playing music on the road that LeRoy became acquainted with what would ultimately become his most well-known talent: photography. Self-educated, Lebens began his professional work while he was on the road performing. Since his shows were mostly at night, he would have the days to himself, where he would spend much of his time in whatever photographers' studio was nearest, "asking a lot of questions."<sup>7</sup> His first 35mm camera was purchased around 1940 and from there he photographed all he could. A self-titled "realist," LeRoy said in an interview with the *Shakopee Valley News* that a photograph "has to be the way it really is or I don't want any part of it."<sup>8</sup>

After a few years of taking pictures for himself, Lebens began to enter photo competitions to judge how his skills matched up to other photographers, both regionally and nationally. The results of these competitions frequently ended in LeRoy's favor. By 1970, he had amassed approximately 38 ribbons for his entries.<sup>9</sup> It was his work with weddings that granted him some national acclaim, however. In February of 1968, *The Professional Photographer* magazine published a two-page article by Lebens titled "Take Your Bride Outdoors." This article focused on incorporating two of LeRoy's passions into one work -- the outdoors and photography -- where he advised taking wedding photos away



LeRoy Lebens' 1959 prize-winning portrait of Dorris Wermerskirchen.



LeRoy Lebens was a professional photographer. Thousands of his photographs are being inventoried by the Scott County Historical Society.

from the standard backdrops of studios or churches and into the natural beauty which often surrounds them.<sup>10</sup> Many of the Shakopee weddings he documented involved series of shots being taken on the banks of the nearby Minnesota River or the falls at Memorial Park.

From his in-home studio on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Shakopee, Lebens documented much more than weddings. His catalogue of work includes parades, fires, car accidents, concerts, construction projects, churches, local business development, and countless photos for the *Wanivetu* Shakopee High School yearbook from the mid-1960s through at least 1980. He continued to juggle

his passions for shooting, swing music, and photography until his death in 1991.<sup>11</sup> Taken as a whole, Lebens' many photographs offer a distinctive perspective of the vibrant life and activity found in Scott County spanning over four decades and it is through these snapshots we can best see his legacy.

For more information about LeRoy Lebens, or to browse some of his work, visit us at the Scott County Historical Society at 235 Fuller Street South, Shakopee. You can also learn more about the Lebens Collection by visiting us online at [www.scottcountyhistory.org](http://www.scottcountyhistory.org).

1. Lebens Family, "Lebens Family History," Shakopee Heritage Society, <http://www.shakopeeheritage.org/wp-content/uploads/lebens-family-history.pdf>. Accessed 4/26/2017, 2.
  2. "He Shoots By Instinct," *Minneapolis Tribune*, 8/27/1966, 22-23.
  3. Ibid.
  4. "Lebens Trio keeps Swing Era alive," *Shakopee Valley News*, 6/25/1980, 4.
  5. Lebens Family, "Lebens Family History," Shakopee Heritage Society.
  6. "Lebens Trio keeps Swing Era alive," *Shakopee Valley News*, 6/25/1980, 4.
  7. Geis, Lois, "LeRoy Lebens Nationally Known For Artistry with A Camera," *Shakopee Valley News*, 4/23/1970, 8B.
  8. Ibid.
  9. Ibid.
  10. Lebens, LeRoy, "Take Your Bride Outdoors," *The Professional Photographer*, February 1966, 63-64.
  11. "LeRoy Lebens dies at age 73," *Shakopee Valley News*, 9/5/1991, 3A.
- All images are from the LeRoy Lebens Collection at Scott County Historical



LeRoy Lebens took this photo of a fire on Shakopee's Main Street.

## Wanted: Age 40 and over softball players



Scott County Senior Softball is looking for players to join their summer league, which is held on Tuesday evenings at Tahpah Park (Shakopee). This fun, recreational league is intended for people age 40 and over. Participants who show up every week get divided up into teams and play one or two games of softball. Wooden bats and pitching carpet is used, and a "no sliding" rule is in place for safety reasons.

The program is starting its seventh year and is hosted by the Shakopee Parks and Recreation department. Cost: \$25 per person; register with the Shakopee Parks and Rec department (1255 Fuller Street, Shakopee). For more information, please contact Gary Hartmann at (612) 554-5205.



# Extension names O'Loughlins Farm Family of Year

By Colleen Carlson,  
U of M Extension Educator

O'Loughlin Farms was first established in 1856 by Dennis and Margaret O'Loughlin. With 162 acres and four cows, Margaret did most of the farming and caring for nine children while Dennis was at war. The farm continued to grow and be passed down through the decades.

Three generations later, Ray and Odelia O'Loughlin took the farm over, building a new barn in 1940 to milk their 30 cows. Their son John, who wed Maryann Weckman, continued to expand the farm. Amidst having four children under foot, they managed to build an addition onto the existing barn in 1967. In 1970, tragedy struck when the barn burned down.

The O' Loughlins were able to rebuild a 112-stall stanchion barn to hold their 110 cow herd. In 1978, the hay loft was destroyed by yet another fire, and that level was rebuilt onto the original foundation. Milking cows continued to be the primary enterprise. Upon finishing high school, John's two sons, Tim and Steve, came back to farm full-time, side by side with their dad until John's passing in 2014. Maryann continues to live on the original farm site.

Currently, O'Loughlin Farms LLC is a fifth-generation farm operated between brothers Tim and Steve O'Loughlin and their families. Today, 350 Holstein cows are milked between the two farm sites. The original site houses 250 low group milk cows, numerous calves, bred heifers, and dry cows. The second farm is home for 70 high group milk cows and houses young stock heifers. Steers are raised from birth to finishing. O'Loughlin farms grow over 4,400 acres of row crops including corn, soybeans, oats, wheat, and alfalfa for feed, bedding, and marketing.

Tim and Steve's families are all involved with the farm and help out whenever and wherever they can. Tim takes the lead with the crops and farm mechanics; he's also a Titan Pro Seed Dealer. His wife Jody helps with the field work, runs for parts, and is a Shakopee 4-H leader. Tim and Jody have three daughters that help out with the fieldwork, feeding calves, and cleaning barns when they have time. Erica works full-time as a Dairy Nutrition Management Consultant for United Farmers Cooperative (UFC) in Waconia. Lexi is employed as a cosmetologist at Cole's Salon, and Ashlyn is a student at South Central College in Mankato.

Steve manages the dairy cows, grinds feed, and does field work. His wife Joanne is involved in the



Steve and Joanne O'Loughlin of Shakopee and their children, Rob and Keri, all have chores to do on their farms located in Scott County.

farms' day-to-day tasks, makes lunch, and also runs for parts! Their son, Rob, works full-time at the farm with daily chores and fieldwork. Daughter, Keri, is a high school junior and takes her turn at feeding calves and cleaning barns.

Mom (Grandma) Maryann, makes her home at the farm and serves up a delicious breakfast. Tim says, "We are also blessed to have several employees that help with milking and day-to-day chores; they keep our world turning!"

The O'Loughlin families are very involved in the dairy industry as members of the Dairy Herd Improvement Association (DHIA) and Minnesota Holstein Association. They have hosted school and church groups, international visitors, and civic groups for farm tours and have taken animals to church festivals to share their knowledge of animals and agriculture.

All of the children have been involved with 4-H, mostly showing dairy cattle at the Scott County Fair and Minnesota State Fair. Erica, Lexi, and Ashlyn have all promoted the dairy industry as past Scott County Dairy Princesses and Ambassadors. Keri is currently a Scott County Dairy Ambassador and 4-Her.

O'Loughlin Family Farms is a proud supporter of the Shakopee Area Catholic School Community (SACS). All of the O'Loughlin children and grand-



Tim and Jody O'Loughlin of Shakopee focus on field work, with assistance from their children, Erica, Lexi, and Ashlyn, when they are available.

kids have attended the school. For over 25 years, the O'Loughlins have hosted the pre-school children for a morning on the farm, feeding cows and baby calves and finishing with an ice cream cone served by Grandma Maryann.

The O'Loughlin Family Farm has a long history here in Scott County, overcoming many obstacles to make a life and living on the family farm. It's great to see how the farm has grown and adopted good land and animal stewardship practices. The family leadership and dedication to the community is a strong tribute to their rural roots.



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Visit our website:  
[www.scottcountymn.gov](http://www.scottcountymn.gov)

## FAST-TRACK

From Page 1

access to shared office space and meeting facilities, media exposure and networking opportunities with other business entrepreneurs, as well as obtaining information from individuals and businesses interested in participating. A formal application process will be announced soon. Applications will be reviewed with the top five business ideas to present their "pitch" to a panel of esteemed judges at a live event in October.

Business ideas will be evaluated on the product concept and potential viability, potential to create jobs with livable wages, inclusion of a technology component, and creation of a product that addresses the identified focus areas.

But don't wait! Individuals or new businesses interested in applying are asked to register their interest in participating online at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FAST-trackcompetition>, by June 5, 2017. The Challenge is free to enter, and there is no minimum age requirement. Those who register will receive additional information on the application process, timelines, etc. In order to be eligible, individuals must reside within Scott County or have a business which was incorporated in Scott County within the past 12 months, have a viable product or service idea, and be willing to participate in the FAST-TRACK Challenge live event.

Businesses interested in serving as a sponsor of the event or interested in providing a service as a part of the prize package(s) are asked to contact Jo Foust, Business Development Specialist, Scott Co. FSS at (952) 496-8830 or email at [jfoust@scottfss.org](mailto:jfoust@scottfss.org).



## FAST-TRACK Business Competition

Hosted by: 



### About FAST-TRACK

What?  
The FAST-TRACK is a competition, hosted by Technology Village in Prior Lake, for new and emerging businesses in Scott County. Our goal is to assist entrepreneurs and put their business ideas on the fast-track to success, creating jobs and enhancing economic development in the county. The event will be held in October, 2017.

Why Enter?  
Participation in the FAST-TRACK competition will provide you with access to technical and financial resources to move your business to the next level!

### Benefits

Benefits for the qualified winner(s):

- \* Cash prize(s) and professional services package(s).
- \* Mentorship opportunities with experienced industry leaders
- \* Access to business and financial planning resources
- \* Access to Class A shared office space and meeting facilities
- \* Networking opportunities with other business entrepreneurs
- \* Media exposure

CONTACT JO FOUST, SCOTT CO. FIRST STOP SHOP AT: (952) 496-8830

## NPAS recycling

From Page 1

Facility operated by the Shakopee Mde-wakanton Sioux Community (SMSC) in Shakopee. NPAS also recycled almost a half million milk cartons. Finally, they replaced garbage containers with additional recycling containers in four of its five buildings.

Jon Shriver, NPAS School Psychologist, has been a fan of the program since it began. "I have seen kindergartners through twelfth graders trying to figure out which part of their lunch waste is compostable, recyclable, and which goes to the landfill. I think having a sign labeled 'Landfill' is prompting kids to think about where they are sending their waste. Giving a kindergartner control over managing their lunch waste helps push them to learn responsibility for themselves, their choices, and to be good stewards of our planet."

For more information on possible assistance and funding to improve recycling at your city, business, place of worship, or other institution, contact Steve Steuber at Scott County at (952) 496-8473. You can also consult the recycling business grant information on the Scott County website at [www.scottcountymn.gov/1398/Business-Recycling-Grants](http://www.scottcountymn.gov/1398/Business-Recycling-Grants).

*Funding for these grants to businesses comes from SCORE and/or LRD funds provided to the County from the State of Minnesota.*